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OTAKON 1995

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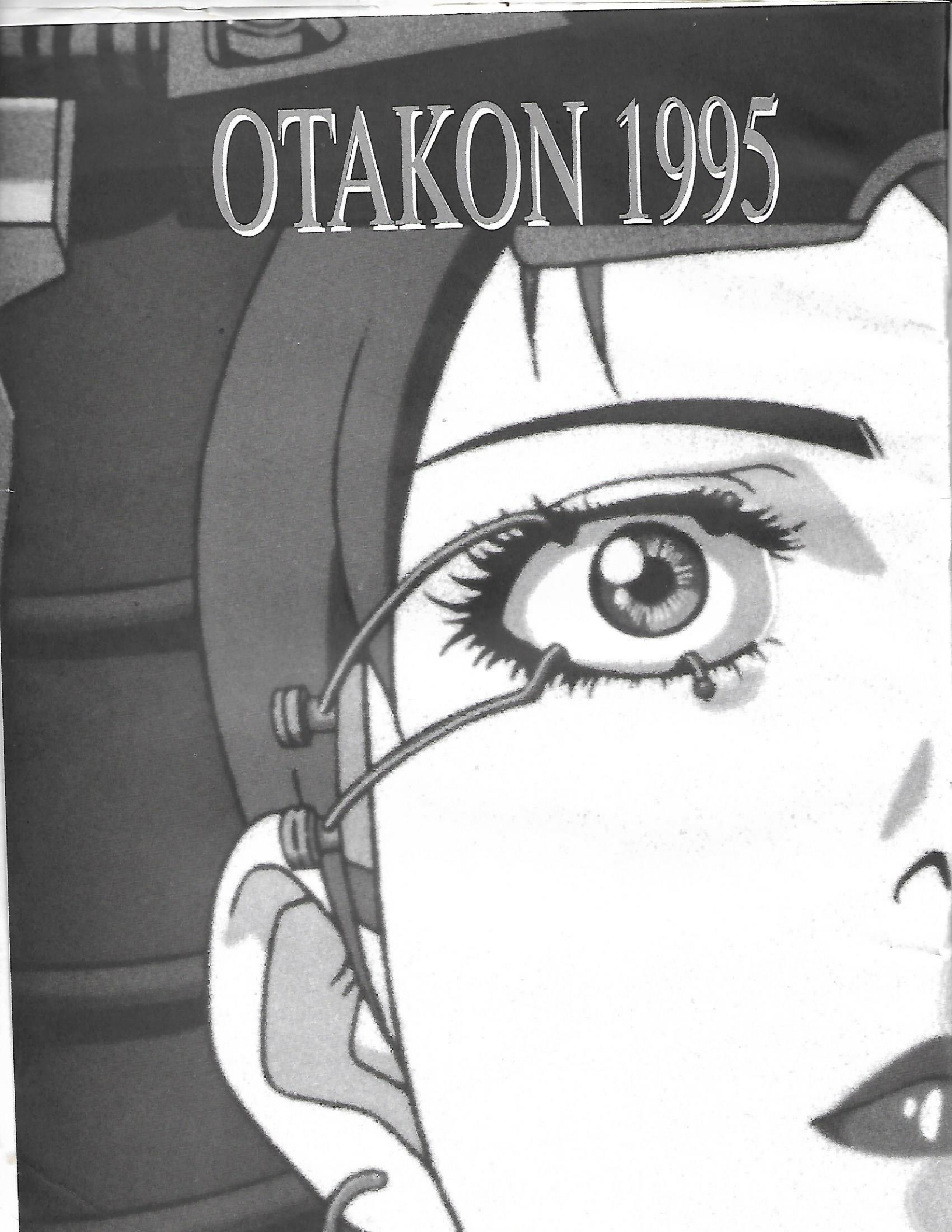
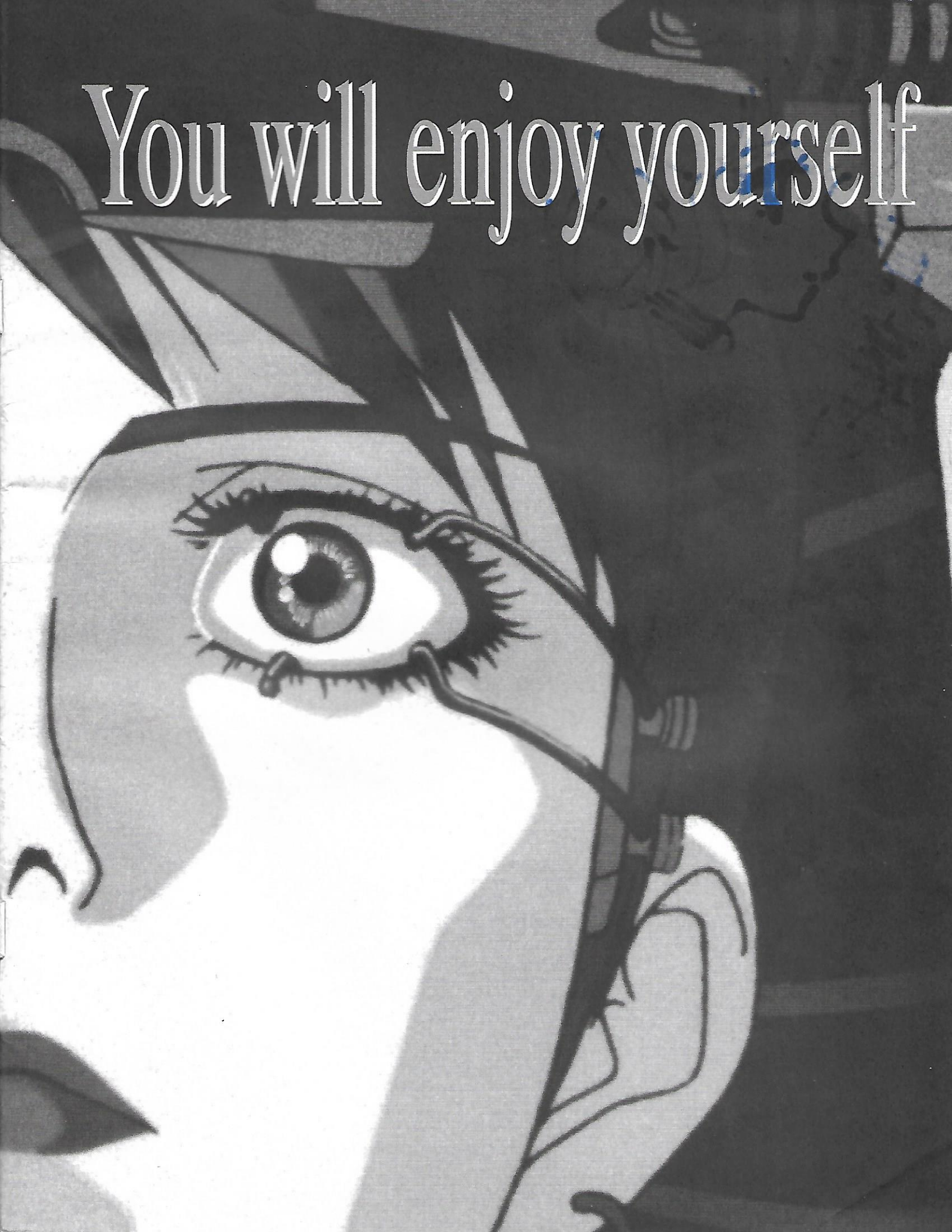
OTAKON 1995




You will enjoy yourself

Teruo Kakuta

"Kondom"

Mr. Kakuta was born February 1961. We subsequently wandered through assorted jobs from age 10 until his professional debut at age 24. His hobbies are helping people to move and computer games (Ed: Ever wonder what a Insect Hunter computer game would be like?).

Mr Kakuta's signature series "Insect Hunter" is currently being serialized by Antarctic Press as "Bondage Fairies". His first American convention appearance is here at Otakon 1995!

Toshio Okada

Toshio Okada was a standard issue fan when he and his friends got together to create the opening animation for Daicon III (the Osaka S.F. Convention) in 1981. Toshio produced that short and the absolutely groundbreaking sequel for Daicon IV in 1983. After the stunning success of the Daicon IV film, Mr. Okada and animation wizard Hideaki Anno founded GAINAX as an Animation studio. Their first project was a five minute treatment, intended for selling their idea of a grand, epic retelling of the first manned space shot in an alternate universe. Their project was successful in attracting investors, and Wings of Honneamis: Royal Space Force eventually became the lushest, most critically lauded, and most expensive Japanese animated movie in anime's short history. WoH made GAINAX'S reputation, and Mr. Okada is generally agreed to have been the driving force behind this seminal film.

Mr. Okada went on to produce a number of fan favorite animes with GAINAX, including the OVA series Gunbuster: Top o Nerae! and the NHK series Nadia of the Mysterious Seas. In the nineties, GAINAX turned to computer games, producing the classic Princess Maker among others, and sponsoring AnimeCon '91. In 1992, Mr. Okada produced his swan song, Otaku no Video. A complex consideration of the otaku zoku (Fan Tribe) that Mr. Okada had never left behind, OnV has always been known to evoke strong emotions, from fear and revulsion (by those uncomfortable with fannish behavior) to revolutionary zeal.

Mr. Okada currently teaches in the Multimedia department of the prestigious Tokyo University.

Adam Warren

Born to a tribe of wild turnips in the early Sixties, Adam grew up immersed in artwork. Or at least we think so: he's very protective about his early history. It is known that he studied at the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art. He encountered anime in the course of his studies, and was greatly impressed, especially by a certain TV series featuring two very violent Trouble Consultants... In 1989 he and Studio Proteus maven Toren Smith collaborated on an American comic adaptation of Haruka Takachiho's Dirty Pair. Adam used a distinctive character design instead of the traditional iconographic designs being used by Sunrise at the time. Although this change was controversial, the series was a hit, and has, at this time, spawned four subsequent miniseries. As of the fourth installment: Sim Hell, Adam took over the writing chores from Toren. Adam introduced to the Dirty Pair universe both a strong cyberpunk element, and a deeply ironic sense of humor. With the most recent installment, Fatal But Not Serious, the Dirty Pair series turned color comic art, following the successful introduction of Adam's color art in his comic adaptation of Bubble Gum Crisis in 1994. Adam Warren is currently the single most popular artist of the "American Manga" movement

Robert DeJesus

Robert was born on December 31, in a humble manger behind a hotel, but because that other fellow was born a few days earlier, the news of his virgin birth was placed on page 37, in the Metro section, and thus went unnoticed by the general public. An anime junkie since the days of Prince Planet and Speed Racer, Bob saw his calling in life as an artist. His first published work was "The Solutioners", published in Mangazine #4. From there he went on to ink for Antarctic Press and also did several short stories for AP, including of course the notorious Small-Bodied Ninja High School! Last year, Bob did the cover cels for Dark Horse's BubbleGum Crisis: Grand Mal miniseries by Adam Warren, and he is now doing inks for Adam's newest Dirty Pair Series: Fatal but not Serious. One of Bob's proudest accomplishments has been his work that appeared in Chosen Ame, a dojinshi introduced into Japan's Comic Market (Comike) by Ken'Ichi Sonoda. Bob has now formed his own publishing house, Studio Capsule, which recently released Anime Nation—a limited-edition mini-folio of Bob's work.

Robert DeJesus

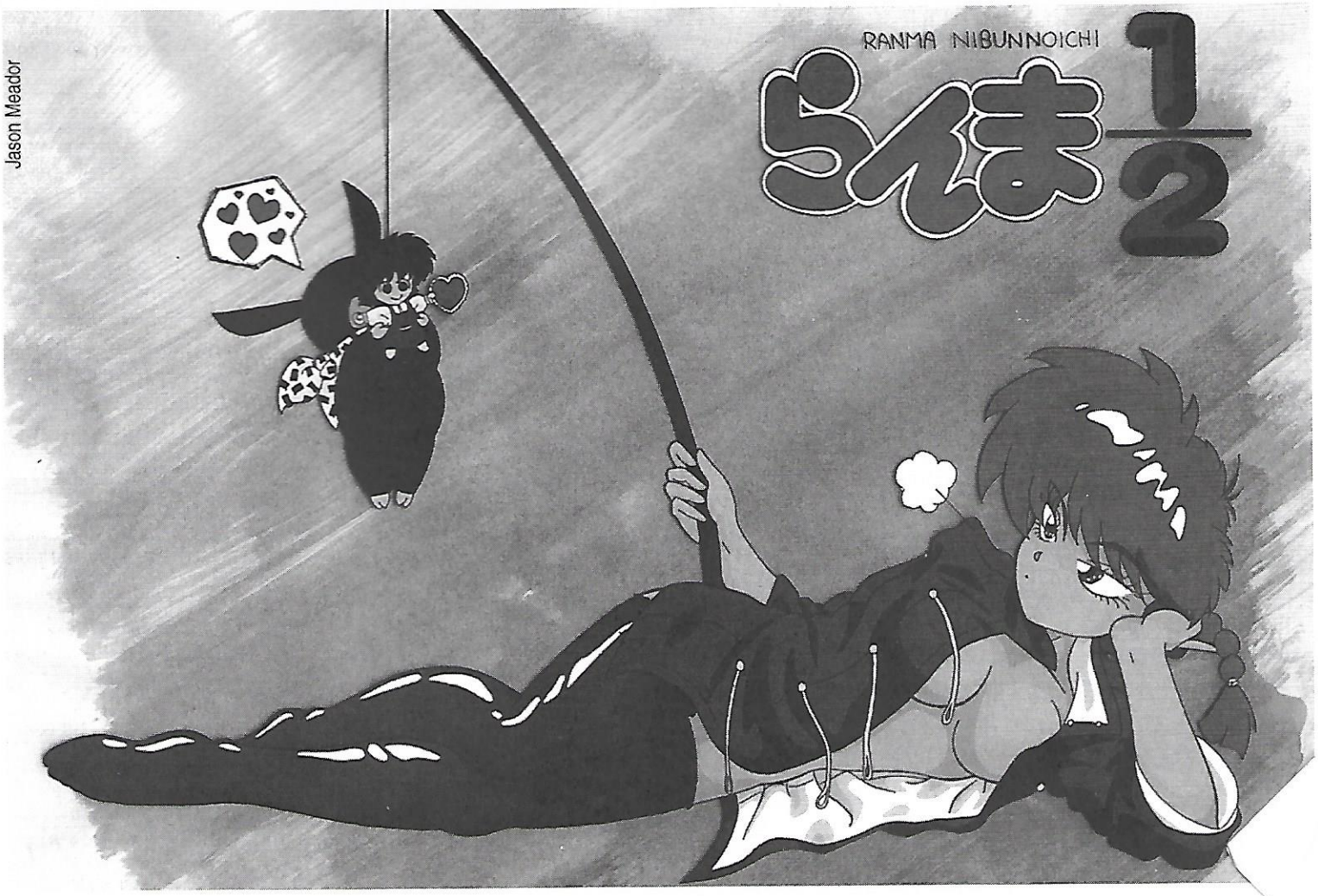
Steve Bennett

Steve Bennett

Having survived his first con ever earlier this year, Steve Bennett is a former Japanese Animation Artist Veteran (or an Anglo-Sino SAAV). He worked at Studio Aoehyama in Tokyo, Japan, as an animator/in-betweener on such projects as the Cat's Eye and the Urusei Yatsura TV series, and most notably the first UY movie "Only You". Since returning from Japan, he's been teaching Animation Art and has been working on several anime-related projects. If you happen to see him roaming the halls, stop him and he'll be glad to tell you about his time "on the tracing tables" with the industry's finest!

Lorraine Savage

Founder of the fan club Anime Hasshin, and editor of its newsletter, The Rose, Lorraine's contributions to East Coast anime fandom have been vast. From its humble beginnings in 1987, Anime Hasshin has grown to over 400 members from 10 countries around the world. The Rose was voted 'Best Anime Newsletter/Fanzine" at ChibiCon in New York in 1993, and has had glowing reviews in such publications as Protoculture Addicts and Anime UK.



Jason Meador

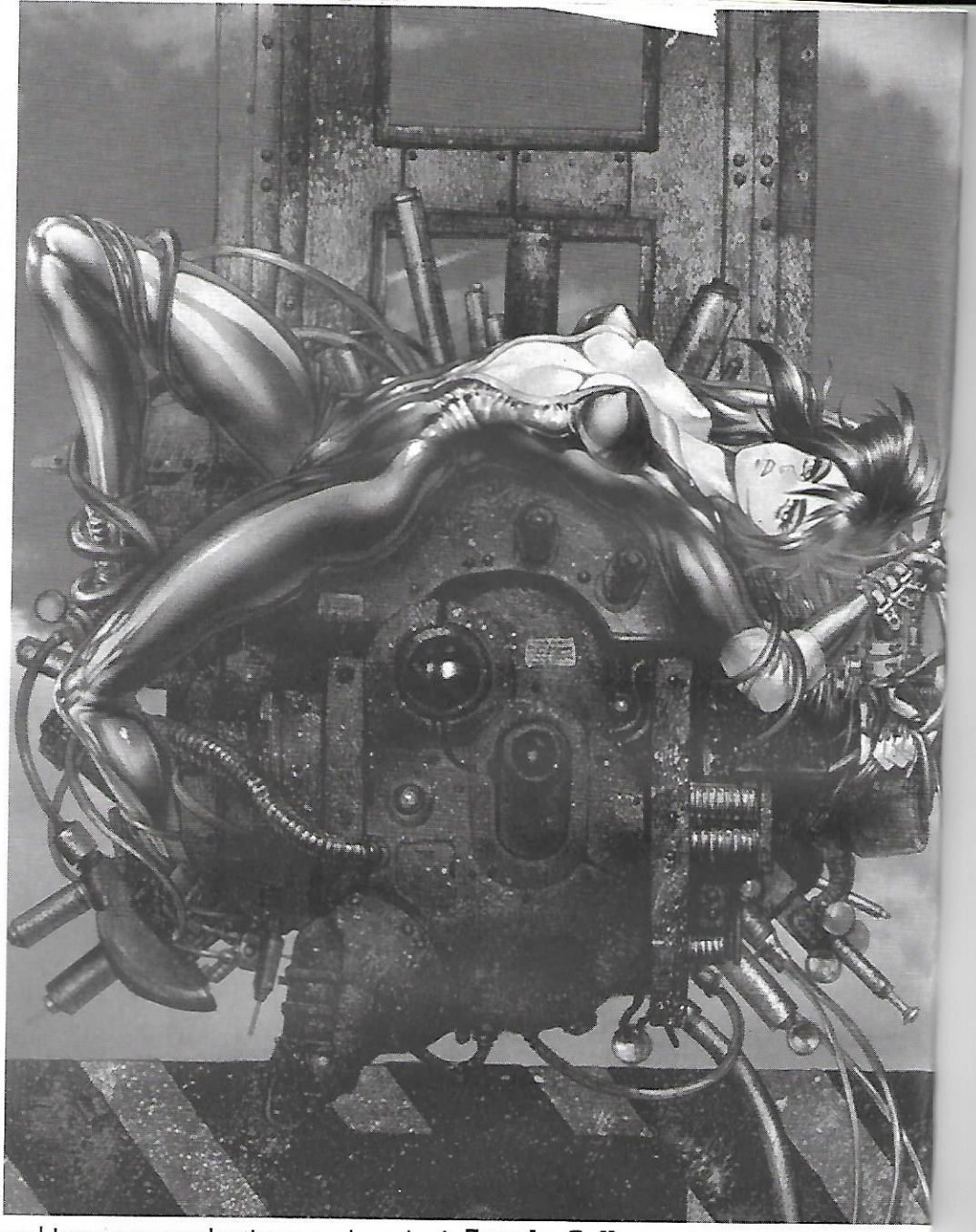
Toren Smith

MANGA RULES OK!

Toren Smith has been involved with Japanese Comics (manga) and animation (anime) for over ten years. In 1986, he organized the first major convention anime room and produced the first synopsis book (both for Baycon'86) In 1987, he worked with Seiji Horibuchi to help start Viz Communications, and later moved to Japan. In 1988, he began co-translating The Legend of Kamui—one of the first two manga to be released in the US—and formed Studio Proteus. That same year, he began teaching at a Tokyo Animation School, the first foreigner to do so. By the end of '88 Studio Proteus was co-publishing Appleseed with Eclipse Comics and Outlanders with Dark Horse Comics. With Adam Warren, he wrote the first three Dirty Pair series—the first Dirty Pair comics produced anywhere—and the Terminator: Hunters and Killers series from Dark Horse. In 1991, along with Toshio Okada and John McLaughlin, he organized the first international anime and manga convention, AnimeCon'91.

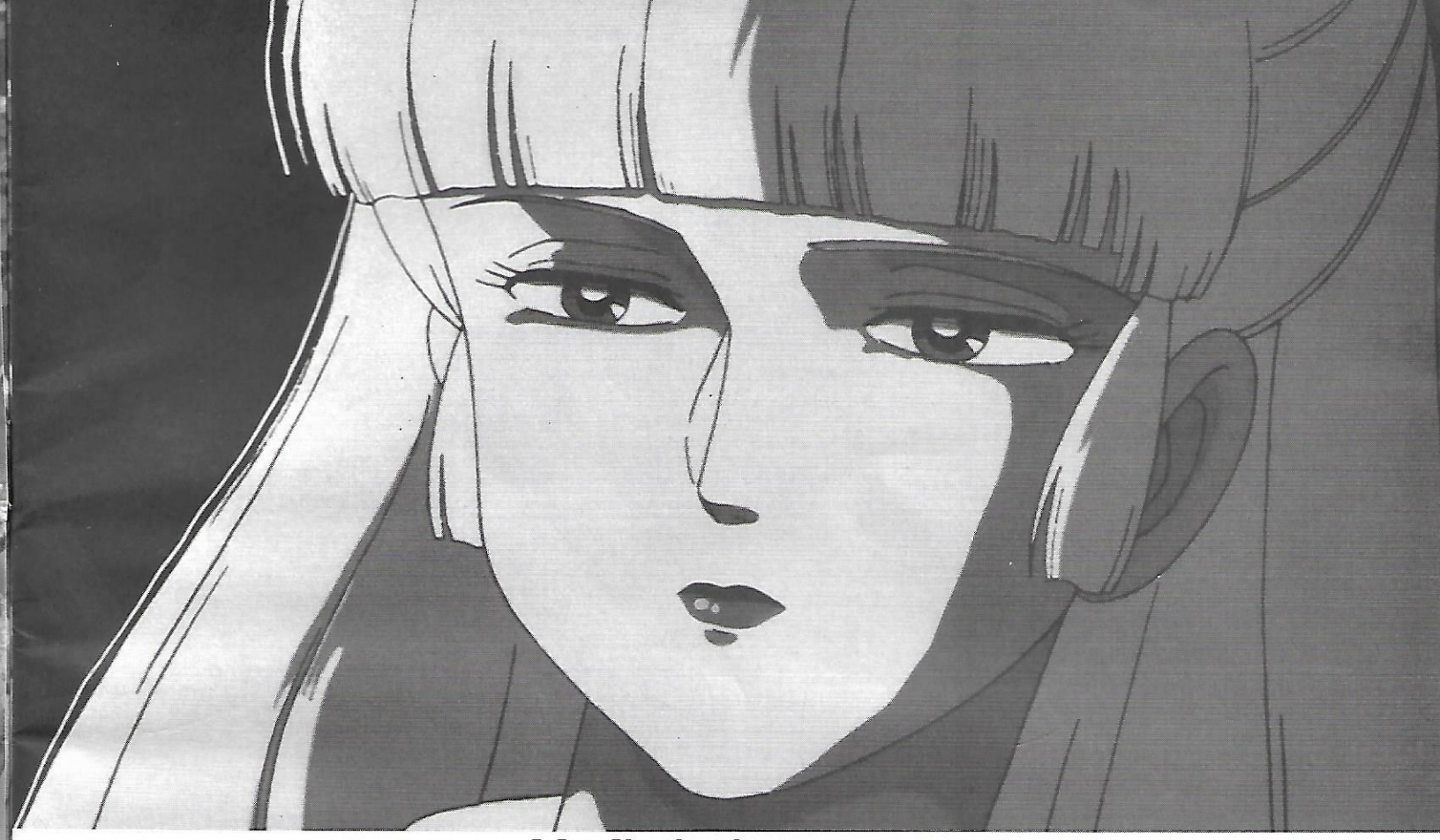
Since founding Studio Proteus, Toren has co-translated over 15,000 pages of manga and produced 25 manga series. Studio Proteus' translations and retouch work have been used worldwide for foreign publishers of manga, appearing in Italy, France, Germany, and the UK. Studio Proteus has eight new series scheduled through 1995, including Katsuhiro Otomo's award-winning Domu, Yuzo Takada's 3X3 Eyes, Ken'Ichi Sonoda's Gun Smith Cats, not to mention Masamune Shirow's eagerly-awaited Ghost in the Shell—complete with gorgeously painted paged reproduced in full color.

Toren has been interviewed or profiled on both TV and radio, and in books, magazines, and newspapers worldwide. He has been a doomed anime character, acted or voice-acted in several Japanese productions, and worked as a cel-painter during a deadline crunch. He has also co-translated the subtitles for Beautiful Dreamer and The Venus Wars movies. In his spare time, he brews beer, paraglides, and wins lawsuits against copyright infringers and deadbeat accounts (7-0 so far—go ahead, make my day). He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Tomoko, and a huge Berkshire Blaze rat named Uisghe.



Tomoko Saito

Cunningly taking advantage of her position as manga-artist-from-Japan-now-living-in-America, Tomoko has been working on such Studio Proteus titles as Domu, GunSmith Cats, and The Legend of Mother Sarah as a letterer/retouch artiste, and as a letterer/screentone artist for The Dirty Pair, and as a just-plain letterer for Bubble Gum Crisis: Grand Mal. Tomoko has been working as a professional illustrator and manga artist in Japan for over ten years. Her projects have included two stories for Arial Comics, illos for video game hint books, and "four-panel" gag comics for various magazines. She has also done



cover and interior illustrations for several SF novels, including Vonda McIntyre's Barbary, Pamela Sargents Alien Child, and most recently Suga Hiroe's popular fantasy novel Akatsuki no Vizantilla. Her work has also appeared in Britain's Crisis magazine and the Canadian benefit comic The True North II.

Recently, a consortium of manga artists from Japan formed a fan club for her, and published a fanzine called Saito (of course). The contributors included Ariel artist and co-creator Suzuki Masahisa, well-known erotic comics artist Utatane Hiroyuki (Countdown, Moonstalker), plus several American artists including Adam Warren Brian Stelfreeze, Dave Johnson, and Karl Story).

Tomoko lives in San Francisco with her husband, Toren Smith, and two pedigree rats—Milk, a Siamese, and Cheese, an American Blue.

C Sue Shambaugh

Sue Shambaugh got her start in anime because, when it was being shown at cons in the early '80s, even those showing it had no clues as to what was going on; so she decided to become the 'script lady'. Having already been a medieval recreation costumer, she has branched out into a hitherto unknown realm—anime recreation costuming—which has boosted her up to the level of Craftsman Costumer in Guild-rated competition, with her Reinhart von Lohengramm dress uniform, matching hot-and-cold-running Ranma outfits, and the Castle Cagliostro wedding scene as highlights. Her favorite translation projects so far have been the Legend of Galactic Heroes series, and Urusei Yatsura OAV for AnimEigo, the original Gundam movies, and the manga Tokyo Babylon, by CLAMP. Current projects include the effort to re-script Maison Ikkoku over the 'net. Other sundry hobbies include horseback riding, fox hunting, needlepoint, stamp collecting, classical piano, gardening, and making twisted creations in her bread machine.

Neil Nadelman

Neil Nadelman is an animated collection of atomic particles held together by nuclear forces and the occasional roast beef sandwich. When not translating for Central Park Media, he might be found lurking about the streets of Somerville, MA. Or he might be looking over your shoulder as you read this program book (BOO! hahahahaha!).

Neil got his start in the translating biz by helping CPM subtitle Project A-ko (and, no, he was not the one who coined the term 'mangarama'), and later went on to translate such titles as Gall Force, Grave of the Fireflies, and Detonator Orgun. While t he bulk of his work has been for CPM, he has also done translations for AnimEigo, LA Hero, and Manga Entertainment, and likes to make himself useful to other dubbing and subtitling companies out there.

Jeff Thompson

Many people don't know who Jeff Thompson is. That's entirely deliberate on his part ... he has been known to wear his badge where you can't easily see it, and prides himself on maintaining a low profile. If you bought a copy of MD Geist because it sounded really cool on the box, though, he's the one to blame. He is the founder of the East Coast animation magazine ANIMENOMINOUS!, did a stint commuting to Manhattan (don't get him started on that), and currently works as the chief designer and production coordinator for The Right Stuf International (what? you've never heard of them either?). When he isn't working under impossible deadlines, he's either screaming at an exploding Quark Xpress (although Photoshop has sometimes been the culprit), or designing someone else's packaging, typically under equally impossible deadlines (and since you're reading this, he pulled off TWO of them). If you do happen to spot him, bring him a Pepsi and ask him to tell you a story. If he can't think of one, ask about the Pizza box and the toner.

John Staton

John Staton is an up and coming illustrator and manga influenced comics artist from the DC-College Park area. He has done work for College Park's indigenous Tsunami, and he has several projects planned with Antarctic Press, including his stunning first series DMV

C Scott Rider

West Virginia's answer to bad Appalachian jokes, Scott is an ambitious soul who in intent on becoming the best writer the American anime industry has known! Scott has written the scripts for Running Ink Animation's short Conscience, and hired them to animate No Enemy But Time (featured in our video schedule, check it out!). Scott has been very hush-hush about his latest project, but it's bound to be fascinating. Scott also has wide interests in electronics and hardware (his "day" job).

Steve Pearl

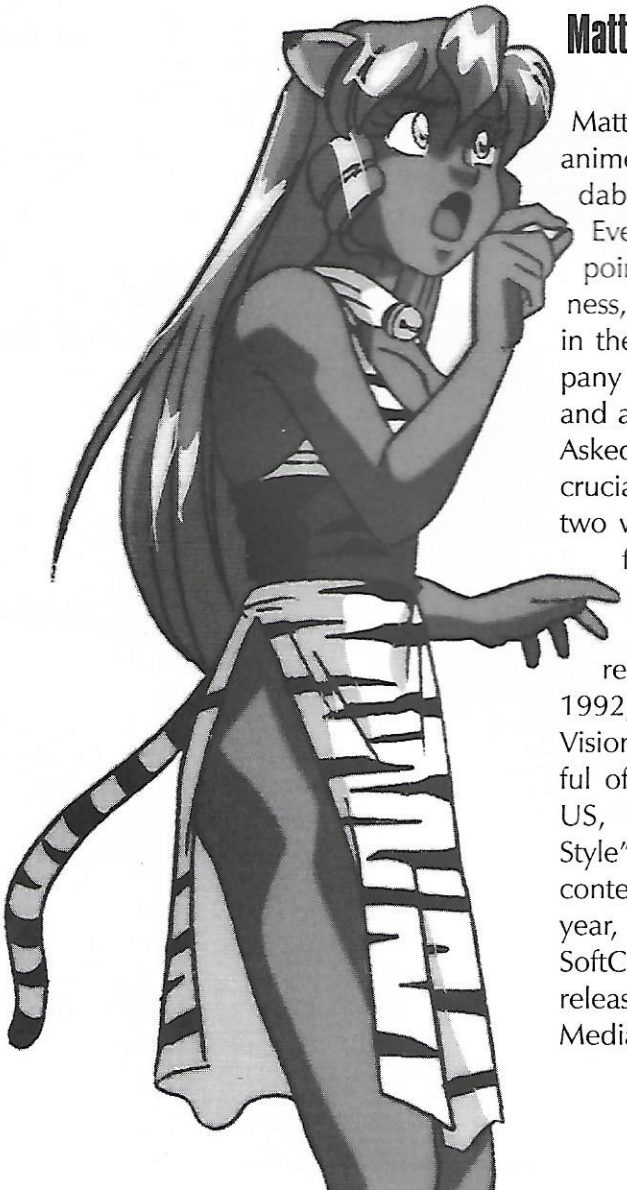
Steve Pearl has been fascinated by anime since the days of Speed Racer, but it wasn't until he saw ROBOTECH (and then the Macross movie) that he discovered "true" anime fandom. His many projects have included founding New Jersey's largest anime club Rutgers Anime, coordinating the Atlantic Anime Alliance, and Vice-chair of Anime East, the second anime convention on the East coast.

But it is the Internet, that mythical Information Superhighway, where Steve truly lives. He's written the FAQ (Frequently-Asked Question) lists for most of the anime and manga-related newsgroups on the net, and he is currently the moderator of rec.arts .anime.info

Robert Woodhead

Robert Woodhead first came to public light as the creator of the popular Wizardry series of computer games. Becoming enamored with Japanese Animation (and having written a nice little subtitling program in his part time) Mr. Woodhead decided to start his own video company, AnimEigo. In late 1989, AnimEigo released the first subtitled anime video the US market had seen, MADOX-01: Metal Skin Panic. AnimEigo went on to release the wildly popular Riding Bean OVA and the perennial Bubblegum Crisis OAV series. AnimEigo has gone on to release literally dozens of titles, including the vast franchise that is Urusei Yatsura. Mr. Woodhead has become, in the interim, the Founding Father of the American anime industry.

Kathleen Moffre-Spoor



Matt Greenfield

Matt Greenfield got his beginning in anime as a comic shop owner who dabbled in Japanese imports. Eventually, his side-line grew to the point where it became his main business, and, merging with a competitor in the Houston area, founded a company intent on acquiring US copyrights and adapting them for the US market. Asked for the company's name in a crucial interview, Matt grabbed the first two words that came to his gaze (AD from an AD Police tape and Vision from a poster on the wall). So was born AD Vision. They released Devil Hunter Yohko in late 1992, followed by Sol Bianca. AD Vision is now one of the most successful of the subtitling companies in the US, specializing in "Anime, Texas Style"; shows that emphasize erotic content and/or violence. In the last year, Greenfield and co. have spun off SoftCel from AD Vision proper, as a release label similar to Central Park Media's Anime-18 label.

Trish Ledoux

Trish Ledoux is a Bay Area anime fan of long standing. First meeting the national eye as the editor of Animag (king of the Eighties anime 'zines), Ms. Ledoux has had a wide and varied career in the community. Slowly developing skills as an adapter and, eventually, a translator (Black Magic M66, Dangaio, Dominion, Orguss, Otaku no Video, Outlanders, Raven Tengu Kabuto, Urusei Yatsura, and most especially, Ranma 1/2), she has had an enduring effect on the fledgling American anime translation industry. Ms. Ledoux is currently senior editor of Animerica, the best selling American anime-industry publication, and works on all of Viz VIdeo's projects, along with her inseparable partner Toshifumi Yoshida. Other duties at Viz include editing scripts for comics such as Ranma 1/2 and Maison Ikkoku, and adapting translations for projects such as the film comic of Mobile Suit Gundam 0083 and Ultraman Classic: Battle of the Ultra Brothers.

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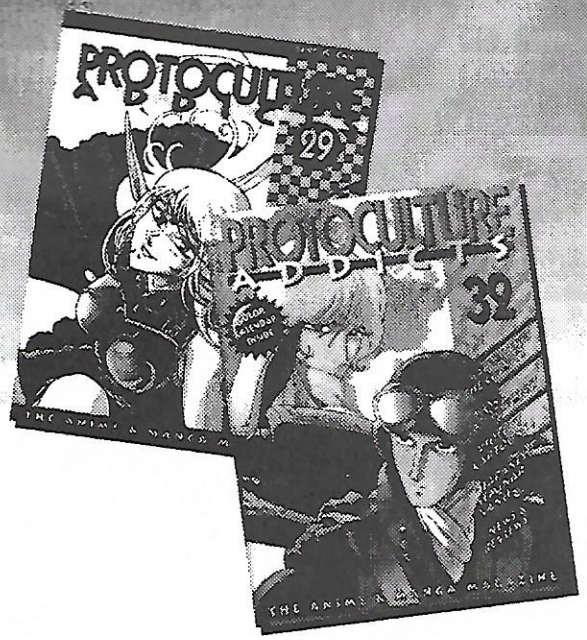

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OTAKON 1995: *Panels*

Anime Cons 101

Paul Wilson, C Sue Shambaugh

What goes on at an anime convention? How can you get the most out of the con? If you miss this, you may be missing a lot this weekend. RECOMMENDED FOR FIRST-TIME CON-GOERS.

Live Action Role-Playing

Kzin

Come and play your favorite anime character as he or she interacts with other characters in pursuit of love, honor, or just a good beef-bowl. Sign-up is here, and your host Kzin will keep it going throughout the weekend. The LARP is free to all members of the con.

Anime Clubs: More Than Just TV?

Mark Pope, Steve Pearl

So you've chased your club out of your apartment for the last time, eh? What is there for anime clubs to do other than sit and passively watch anime? We know the answers are out there, folks, stop by and tell us about your club and what you do!

Video Graffiti

Matt Pyson

One deranged mind makes a music video. Two make a doujinshi. Three make an anime parody. (And four run a con) Here we discuss the best and the worst, and what you need to do your own music videos and fan parodies.

Fandom: The Early Years

Jeff Thompson, Lorraine Savage, Steve Pearl

Do you remember when you had to read off scripts? Synopses? 30th generation video tape played on Betamax? Congrats, you're a new-minted Old Fogie. What are we to do with these new-fangled types that can't get along without their subtitles and dubs?

Yaohan Ho! East Coast Anime Shopping

Steve Pearl

What, you want to do more than rent US-licensed anime? Are mail-order companies your only hope? There are pockets of anime dealers all over the East Coast. Where are they, and why are they hiding?

Animate THIS!

Neil Nadelman, Jeff Thompson, Lorraine Savage

You've got a manga you enjoy and are wondering: Why hasn't this been animated yet? It's the greatest thing since... well, everyone else has just got to know how good it is! Or do they?

The H Files

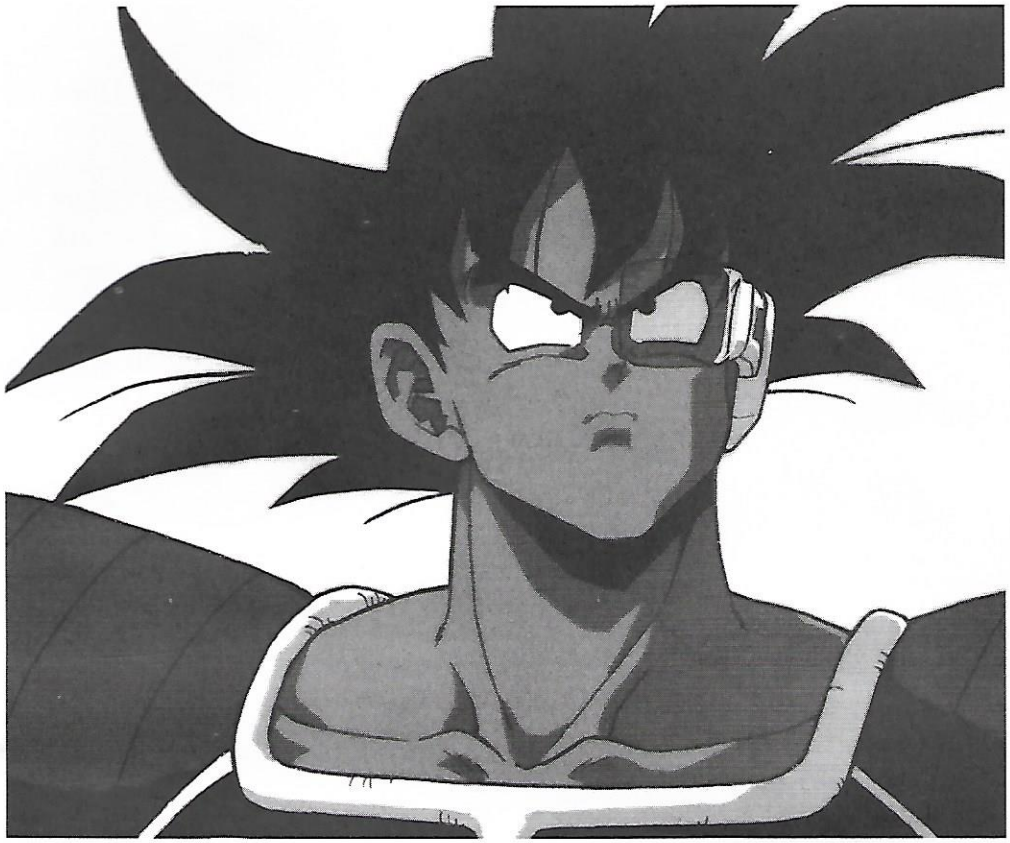
Teruo Kakuta, Toren Smith, Robert DeJesus

Sex sells. It's a dictum (Huh-huh. He said dictum. Huh-huh Huh) as old as the hills, but it's still true. Is there a line that you can't cross? How close to that line do you wanna dance? Can you do anything else once you've done H?

Nagisa Bonita and Other Acts of Creative Insanity

C Sue Shambaugh, Tom Holtz

A long-time staple of the SF convention circuit, Filk is a relative newcomer to anime cons. The concept is simple: take the score from a popular song, and rewrite the lyrics, usually in a humorous vein. Think of it as Karaoke, with a twist!



State of the Industry: Anime in the US 1995

Toren Smith, Adam Warren, Jeff Thompson, Trish Ledoux, Robert Woodhead, Matt Greenfield

Ok, what the heck is going on out there, people? What trends are you seeing? How is this affecting mainstream America? Is it even being noticed? Are the companies independent of those crazy fans at last?

How CAN dubs be Improved?

Neil Nadelman, Lorraine Savage, Steve Pearl

Forget the extremists. In the middle, there are those who say that 'this dub is good enough' and those that say 'no it's not'. What points do they disagree on? What is being done right and what needs improvement in the anime dubbing scene today?

Costume Play Is My Reason for Living!

C Sue Shambaugh, Tom Holtz, Don Jones

What possesses otherwise sane adults to dress in goofy outfits, spending many dozens of hours preparing and making said weird apparel, only to do skits on a stage at a gathering of other odd people? And why are there so many women willing to dress up as Kei and Yuri?

Asian Film: More than Just Japan

Mark Pope, Robert DeJesus

Exaggerated, accelerated, brutal, prudish, breath-takingly graceful and shockingly violent, Hong Kong action is unparalleled in world cinema. Has it been this way all along, or are we just now noticing the art under the chop-suey bad dubbing?

Inside: Studio Proteus

Toren Smith, Tomoko Saito

From the beginning, Studio Proteus has stood at the forefront of manga (Japanese comics) translation and adaptation. Toren Smith and Co. have been here as long as anybody else. Now that they've allied with Dark Horse Comics, the sky is wide-open. What has it been like?

Women in Anime

C Sue Shambaugh, Lorraine Savage, Tomoko Saito

Given the social habits of many male otaku, one must wonder why there are any women at all in anime fandom. But, with recent changes in the types of anime being released (it ain't just T&A and Girls-with-Guns anymore) more women are flocking to anime fandom. Will this result in a new super race of people who love cel art and speak Japanese better than English because it's what they hear more often? Find out from our panel of experts in this particular area.

Jason Meador

Spotlight: Kondom

Teruo Kakuta is one of the best-selling manga artists on this side of the Pacific: Bondage Fairies has outsold every other adapted manga except the venerable Akira itself. Come check out the man behind the phenomenon.

You Know You're an Otaku When.., or "What's a life, and where can I get one?"

Toshio Okada, Steve Pearl

It all started when you joined that "club" in your sophomore year... Your studies took a back seat to late-night anime viewing sessions... You quit hanging out with your friends from the previous year... Symptoms familiar to us all. But what's it like on the other side of the Pacific? Let the original OTAKING set you straight about the fandom scene in Japan

Modeling Workshop

Rich Johnson

Putting together all those damn little parts into a coherent piece and keeping it that way is difficult. (Especially since you spend hours flying your new toys around the apartment in mock combat sequences from 0083.) Our mecha-master will help you find out how to build the best damn wad of plastic and glue that you can.

Spotlight: Adam Warren

The guy famous for 'Americanizing' the Dirty Pair (and more recently the Knight Sabers) is incidentally the most talented, capable, and popular of the American manga movement. Scope out the master of the "Crucial Realm".

Cel Painting Workshop

Steve Bennett

Steve Bennett is here to show you how to do the cel thing, pro-style. There will be an additional fee for this workshop to cover materials. Slots are limited, please sign up at the registration desk.

Inside: AD Vision

Matt Greenfield

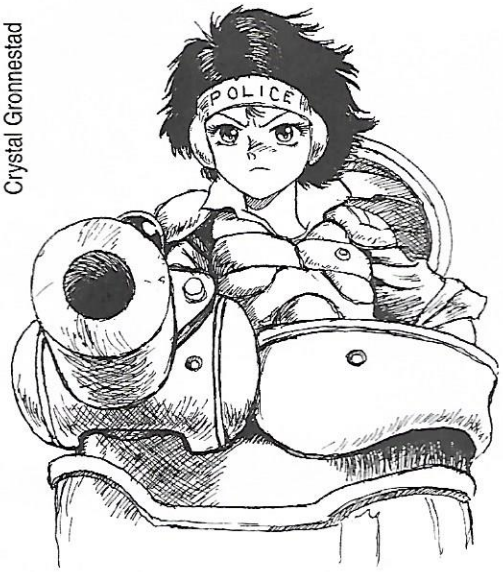
A relative newcomer to the Industry, AD Vision hit the scene in early 1993 as Texans on a rampage: brash, unashamed, pugnacious, and as assertive as they come. 'Anime Texas Style' they proclaimed in that urban Houston drawl. They've changed the face of the Industry. Where are they going now?

Getting Published

Adam Warren, Robert DeJesus, John Staton

Everybody is a critic, they say, but these days it seems more like everybody's an author, too. How can you get your stuff in print? How do you tell if you should be getting your stuff in print? Is it possible to go professional?

Dan Kellaway



Crystal Gronnestad

Katakana Workshop

Lorraine Savage

Working on your Japanese skills? Tired of asking the Japanese kid in your club to tell you "What's the title of this one?". Learn Katakana! It's the set of characters the Japanese use to write foreign (usually English) words and sound effects.

Fan Subtitling Workshop

Andy Abadia

Learn what you need in the way of hardware and software to perform one of fandom's great labors of love. But don't expect it to be easy.

The Evolution of an Animated Film

Toshio Okada, C Scott Rider, Steve Bennett

You've watched thousands of hours of it, find out how it's made you couch-monkey! What is involved in the nitty-gritty of animation. What goes into the writing, storyboarding, roughing, animating and in-betweening.

Inside: Animeigo

The forerunner of customer responsiveness is here to talk about their new projects. Hear about new licenses and merchandise, and hear about how far along they are in dubbing all of their old titles.

All That's Fit to Print

Lorraine Savage, Trish Ledoux, Jeff Thompson

Whether it's a fanzine or a prozine, everyone tries to print the information their readers want to read. What do you appreciate seeing in these magazines, and what do you want that you're not seeing?

The Fine Art of Translation

C Sue Shambaugh, Neil Nadelman

If you're too literal, you've lost them. If you interpret, you've maybe lost the meaning in the process. How do you balance your translations between the two extremes?

Robert DeJesus

Made In America? Manga-style American Comics

Adam Warren, Toren Smith, Robert DeJesus, John Staton

The American Manga Movement is a recent edge-effect in the American comics industry. It's always threatening to break out into the general market, but it never seems to quite make it. On the other hand, while the rest of the American comics industry bucks and twists and vomits forth polybagged rubbish and declining market shares, the Manga Movement continues to grow slowly. Is the future on the slow train to success?

Manga in Japanese Society

Teruo Kakuta (Kondom), Toren Smith, Robert DeJesus, Neil Nadelman, Toshio Okada

Everyone in Japan, it sometimes seems, is reading comics. Has the American media exaggerated the intellectual competence of the Japanese, or is it possible for an educated society to grow up and live reading funny books?

Cel Painting 2

Steve Bennett

Another Cel Painting workshop for those who couldn't attend on Saturday. The Cel Painting workshop was our most popular last year so we've offered it twice this time.

Fan-Subtitling Under Seige

Neil Nadelman, C Sue Shambaugh, Steve Pearl

Fan subtitling isn't dead... yet. But isn't that the knock at the door, there? The end of an era may be coming. What will be left?

Selling Manga in America, or ... Why Don't You Publish Tezuka?

Toren Smith, Teruo Kakuta

Manga (Japanese comics) is a medium of varying difference from American comics. What has to be done to adapt to the market? What should be done? Is it possible to be too literal, too protective of the original material?

I was a Teenage Cel-Painter: The Steve Bennett Story

Steve's worked on a number of anime projects in Japan, including a stint with Studio Pierrot doing Urusei Yatsura: Only You. What the anime industry looks like from the ranks.

GAINAX: How it all began...

Toshio Okada, Tomoko Saito

Get the inside scoop on the ups and downs of one of the most recognized animation studios in Japan. From the mouth of "Tanaka" himself, come hear the true-life tale of GAINAX Studios.

How to Commit Costume Play

C Sue Shambaugh, Tom Holtz, Don Jones

A workshop for men and women who want to dress in silly outfits and parade about like their favorite anime character. Tips and tricks from some of the best.

Drawing the Line

Jeff Thompson, Robert DeJesus, Adam Warren, John Staton

Intellectual Property has become a hot topic here of late, not only in the anime industry, but in all forms of popular entertainment. One need only tune in to the "Late Show with David Letterman" to know that. [For the current-society-impaired, NBC claimed that the title "Late Night" was their intellectual property, resulting in the name change.—Ed.] But back on the subject of anime, how does this affect what we draw?

Anime Without the Internet?

Steve Pearl, Neil Nadelman

Suppose that, in an alternate world, parallel to our own, personal computers never took off quite the same, and that ocean (be it ever-so-sewage-filled) of information we call the 'net never surfaced in mainstream society. How would anime fandom be different? See what the people who get their 'net fix straight from an IV think about it.

Sailor Moon H and Other Stories

Teruo Kakuta (Kondom), Robert DeJesus

Doujinshi—a concept as foreign to many Americans as the word itself—is an immensely popular medium for fan art in Japan. Many of our favorite artists got their start in doujinshi, many of whom still publish in these small-press publications on a regular basis.

Fandom Beyond 1996?

C Sue Shambaugh, Steve Pearl

Will recent legal concerns and an influx of anime into the mainstream media kill fandom as we know it? Will we all be sued out of existence? Or, will we simply go plodding along as we always have?

So What Can You do With a Zentraedi Battle Fleet?

Rich Johnson

There's been a recent spate of anime-oriented role-playing games on the market. Is it a good thing for a system to be as specialized as "Project A-ko"? Are games such as "Mekton" too general? Is there a happy medium?

ROBOTECH: 10 years after

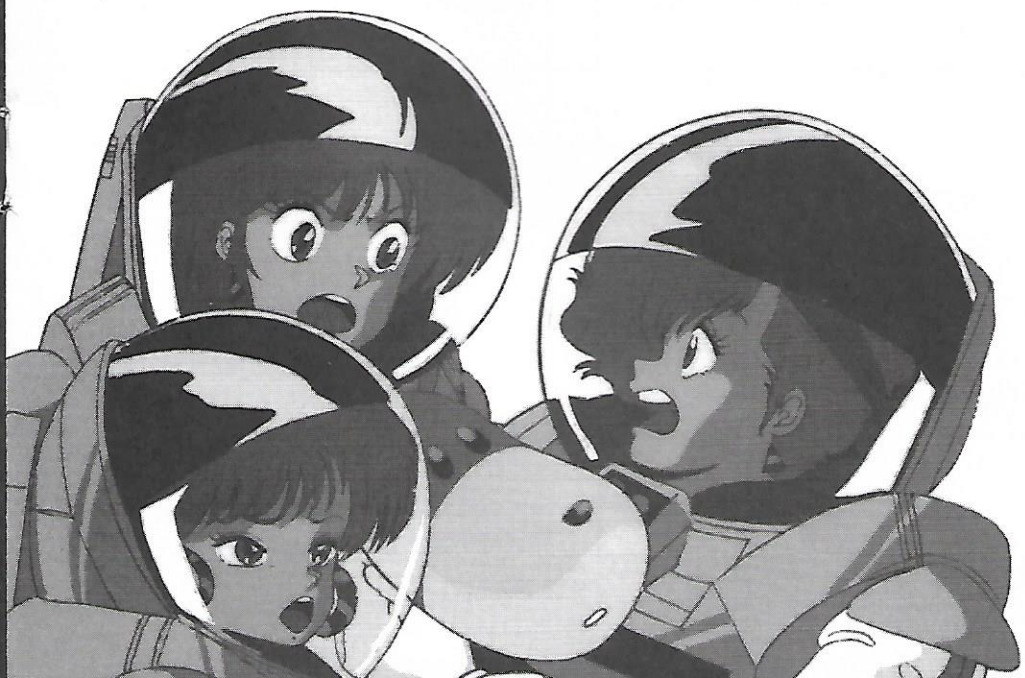
Steve Pearl

Probably the basis of many anime fans' interest, this 1985 TV series struck a chord in the hearts and minds of millions. Not just more UHF filler, it had depth, a progressing storyline, and oooh, the art. What's going on in the ROBOTECH universe today?

Japanese Folklore

Tom Holtz

Myth, Legend, Folklore: It is our history, our culture. It is the basis for many of our works of literature, our films, our anime. How has Japanese folklore influenced anime from Karura Mau to The Hakkenden?



OTAKON 1995 *Program Schedule*

Day	Time	Theater One	Theater Two	Theater Three	Theater Four	Panel One
Friday	12:00	CLOSED	MS Gundam Movie 1	Urusei Yatsura: Only You	Mr. Vampire	CLOSED
Friday	12:30					
Friday	13:00					
Friday	13:30					
Friday	14:00			Sailor Moon R 1-4	Once a Thief	
Friday	14:30		Karura Mau movie			
Friday	15:00					
Friday	15:30					
Friday	16:00	Wings of Honneamise	Galactic Heroes 1-4	Future Boy Conan 1-4	Godzilla vs Mothra 1992	AnimeCons 101 RECOMMENDED FOR FIRST-TIME CON-GOERS
Friday	16:30					
Friday	17:00					
Friday	17:30					
Friday	18:00	Macross Plus 1-2	Cyber City Oedo 1-2	Patlabor TV 1-3	Dragon Inn	Live Action Role-Playing
Friday	18:30					
Friday	19:00					
Friday	19:30			Ai City		Video Grafitti
Friday	20:00	El Hazard	Natsuki Crisis 1-2		Peking Opera Blues	
Friday	20:30					
Friday	21:00	Street Fighter II Movie	Z Gundam 1-4	Music Video Screening		Yaohan Ho! A Survival Guide to Anime Shopping
Friday	21:30					
Friday	22:00				The Killer	
Friday	22:30					The H Files
Friday	23:00	Otaku no Video 1982	Record of Lodoss Wars Episodes 1-4	Rose of Versailles 1-2		
Friday	23:30					
Saturday	0:00	Otaku no Video 1985		End of Summer	In the Realm of the Senses	CLOSED
Saturday	0:30					
Saturday	1:00	Pinesalad Dirty Pair 1-2	Green Legend Ran 1-3	Rei Rei 1-2		
Saturday	1:30					
Saturday	2:00	CLOSED		Video Girl Ai 1-6	Project S	
Saturday	2:30					
Saturday	3:00					
Saturday	3:30		Gundam 0083 1-5			
Saturday	4:00				Crime Story	
Saturday	4:30					
Saturday	5:00			Patlabor TV 30-35 "Griffon Episodes"		
Saturday	5:30					
Saturday	6:00		Heroic Legend of Arislan 1-2		Mishima	CLOSED
Saturday	6:30					
Saturday	7:00					
Saturday	7:30					
Saturday	8:00	Ryoknohara Labryinth	Galactic Heroes 5-8	Future Boy Conan 5-8	Full Contact	
Saturday	8:30					
Saturday	9:00	Dragon Half 1-2				
Saturday	9:30					
Saturday	10:00	Omoide Poro Poro	DP Flash 1-3	Oh My Goddess! 1-3	Once Upon a Time in China	Costume Play is my reason for living
Saturday	10:30					
Saturday	11:00					
Saturday	11:30		The Cockpit 1-3	Koko wa Greenwood 1-3		State of the US Industry 1995
Saturday	12:00	Kishin Heidan 1-3				
Saturday	12:30				Wheels on Meals	
Saturday	13:00		Samurai Shodown	Rupan III: Fuma Clan		Inside: Studio Proteus
Saturday	13:30					
Saturday	14:00	Ninja Scroll				
Saturday	14:30		801 TTS 1-3	Irres. Captain Tyler 1-3	Armor of God	Inside: AD Vision
Saturday	15:00					
Saturday	15:30					
Saturday	16:00	Tenchi Muyo OAVs 8-11	Dominion II 1-2	Touch: The Ace Without a Number	Lone Wolf and Cub: Lend a Child... Lend an Arm	Spotlight: Kondom
Saturday	16:30					
Saturday	17:00		Devil Hunter Yohko 5			
Saturday	17:30			All-Purpose Cultural Cat-Girl Nuku Nuku 1-3	City Hunter	Spotlight: Adam Warren
Saturday	18:00	CLOSED	You're Under Arrest! 1-2			
Saturday	18:30					
Saturday	19:00	CLOSED: Masquerade	Patlabor: 1999 Tokyo War	Baoh	Godzilla vs MechaGodzilla	CLOSED
Saturday	19:30					
Saturday	20:00			Music Video Screening		
Saturday	20:30					
Saturday	21:00		Record of Lodoss Wars Episodes 5-8		The Naked Killer	
Saturday	21:30	CLOSED				
Saturday	22:00	Armitage III 1-2		Metal Fighter Miku 1-2		
Saturday	22:30				Armor of God 2	
Saturday	23:00		Galactic Heroes 9-12	Future Boy Conan 9-12		
Saturday	23:30	Fanboy Generation X				
Sunday	0:00					
Sunday	0:30	ROBOTECH III: NNTS			Hidden Fortress	
Sunday	1:00		Gundam 0083 6-9	Rose of Versailles 3-4		
Sunday	1:30	No Enemy But Time				CLOSED

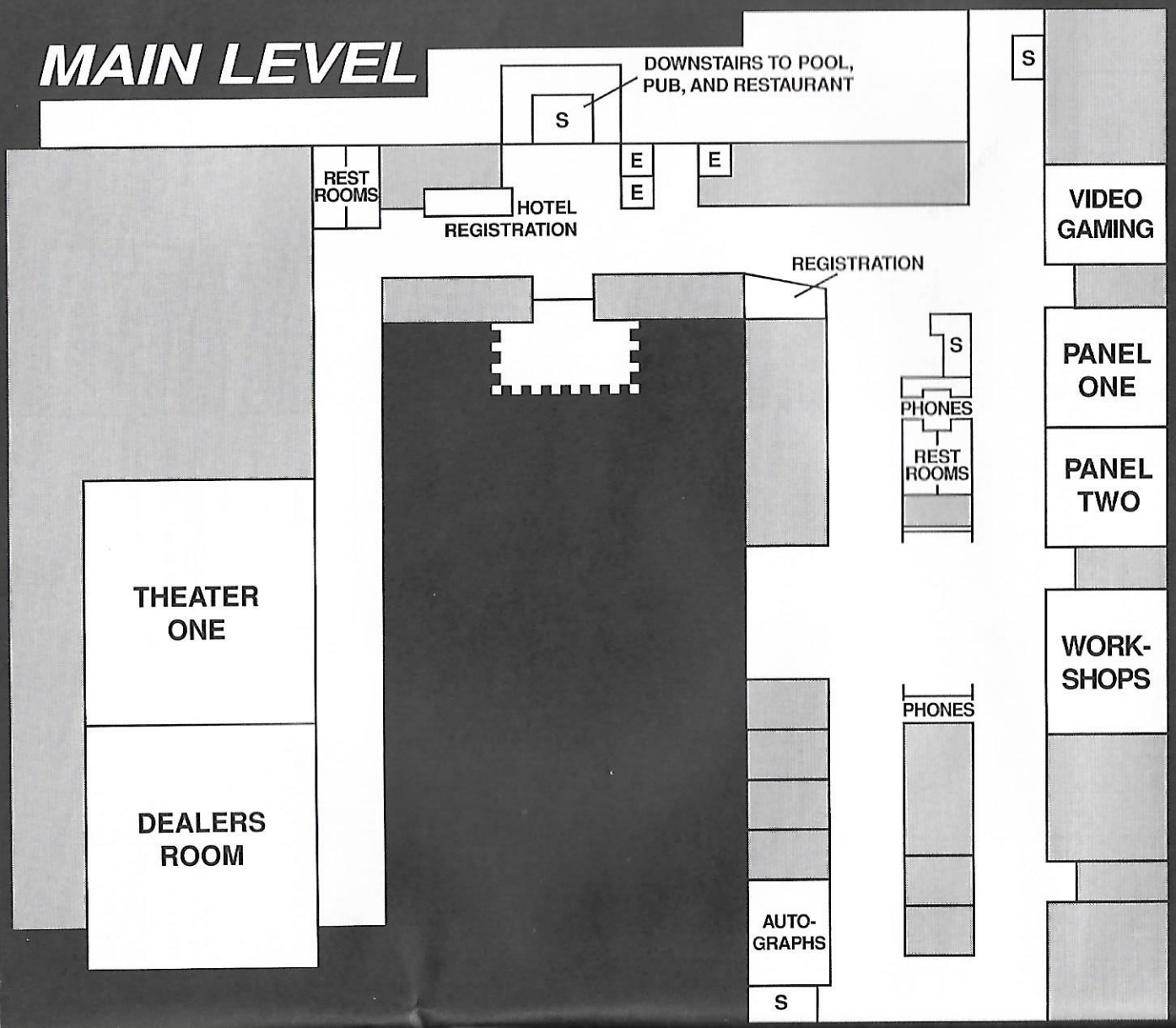
Panel Two	Workshops	Video Gaming	Autographs	Art Show	Dealer's Room	Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Anime Clubs: More Than Just TV?	CLOSED	Open Gaming		Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
Fandom: The Early Years			Kondom Signing			
Animate THIS!		Open Gaming	DeJesus Signing			Open Con Suite
Nagisa Bonita and Other acts of Creative Insanity			Warren Signing			
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	Open Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Asian Film: More Than Just Japan	Game Show Elimination	Open Gaming	Warren Signing	Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
How CAN dubs be IMproved?			Okada Signing			
Women in Anime	Cel Painting Workshop		Staton Signing			
Getting Published		DragonBall Z 2 Tournament (SNES)	Kondom Signing	Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
You know you're an otaku when...	Modeling Workshop	Ranma 1/2: Hard Battle Tournament (SNES)	DeJesus Signing			
All That's Fit to Print		Super Street Fighter 2 Tournament (3DO)	CLOSED	Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	Open Gaming	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	Open Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	

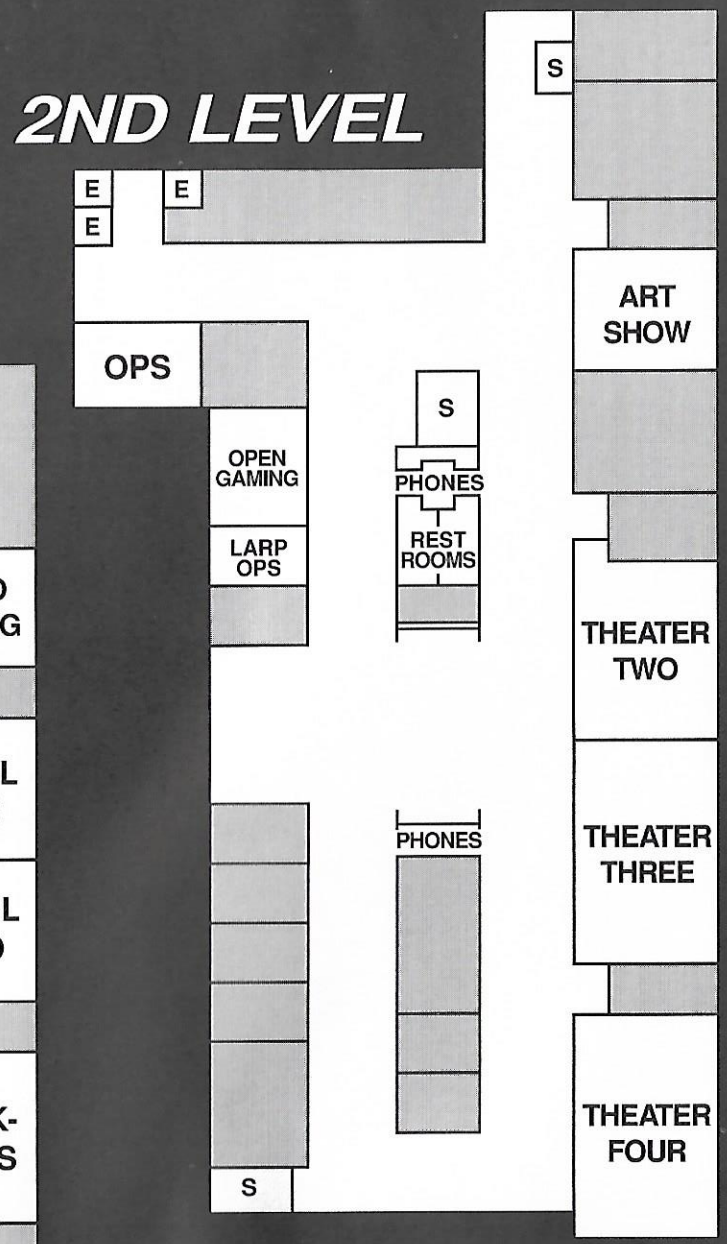
OTAKON 1995 *Program Schedule*

Day	Time	Theater One	Theater Two	Theater Three	Theater Four	Panel One
Sunday	2:00	CLOSED		KO Seiki Beast 1-3		CLOSED
Sunday	2:30					
Sunday	3:00		Gunbuster 1-6		Kwaidan	
Sunday	3:30			KO Seiki Beast II 1-4		
Sunday	4:00					
Sunday	4:30					
Sunday	5:00					
Sunday	5:30			Kimagure Orange Road TV 1-6		
Sunday	6:00		Yotoden 1-3		New Legend of Shaolin	
Sunday	6:30					
Sunday	7:00					
Sunday	7:30				Yojimbo	
Sunday	8:00	Lupin III: Mystery of Mamo				
Sunday	8:30		Galactic Heroes 13-16	Future Boy Conan 13-16		
Sunday	9:00					
Sunday	9:30				Tampopo	
Sunday	10:00	Kishin Heidan 4-7				Fine Art of Translation
Sunday	10:30		DP Flash 4-6	Spirit of Wonder		
Sunday	11:00					
Sunday	11:30			Oh My Goddess 4-5	Chinese Ghost Story	Made in America?
Sunday	12:00	Phantom Quest Corps 1-4	Tokyo Babylon 1-2			
Sunday	12:30					
Sunday	13:00			Koko wa Greenwood 4-6	Bride With White Hair	Inside: AnimEigo
Sunday	13:30					
Sunday	14:00	The Hakkenden 1-2	Sohryuden 1-2			
Sunday	14:30			All-Purpose Cultural Cat-Girl Nuku Nuku 4-6	Iron Monkey	Fan-Subtitling Under Seige
Sunday	15:00	Macross Plus 3				
Sunday	15:30					
Sunday	16:00	Heisei Tanuki Pon Poko	Heroic Legend of Arislan 3-4	I Can Hear the Sea	Once Upon a Time in China 2	Art Auction
Sunday	16:30					
Sunday	17:00					
Sunday	17:30		AD Police File 1	Nineteen		
Sunday	18:00	CLOSED	Dominion II 3-4		Hard Boiled	
Sunday	18:30					
Sunday	19:00	Music Video Screening	Crimson Wolf	Irres. Captain Tyler 4-6		CLOSED
Sunday	19:30					
Sunday	20:00					
Sunday	20:30			Tenchi Muyo! Mihoshi	Heroic Trio	
Sunday	21:00	Game Show	Galactic Heroes 17-20	Future Boy Conan 17-20		
Sunday	21:30					
Sunday	22:00	Awards Ceremony			Fong Sai Yuk	
Sunday	22:30					
Sunday	23:00	CLOSED	Final Yamato	Campus Guardress 1-2		
Sunday	23:30	Dirty Pair: Arrest of...				
Monday	0:00	Voltron: Hell Bent...			Drunken Master 2	
Monday	0:30	Various Fan Parodies				
Monday	1:00	Gundam 0069: Jion Years		Villgust 1-2		
Monday	1:30	Fast Food Freedom Fighters				CLOSED
Monday	2:00	CLOSED	Gundam 0083 10-13	Kiki's Delivery Service	Sex and Zen	
Monday	2:30					
Monday	3:00					
Monday	3:30				Black Lizard	
Monday	4:00		Bastard! 1-6	Tenchi Muyo! 1-6		
Monday	4:30					
Monday	5:00				Stray Dog	
Monday	5:30					
Monday	6:00					CLOSED
Monday	6:30					
Monday	7:00		Galactic Heroes 21-26	Future Boy Conan 21-26	Godzilla vs King Ghidra	
Monday	7:30					
Monday	8:00	Crying Freeman 1-2				
Monday	8:30					
Monday	9:00				Dynaman TV 1-2	
Monday	9:30					
Monday	10:00	Zeguy 1-2	LOST DUB THEATER	Goshogun: Etranger	Zeram	Anime Without the Internet
Monday	10:30					
Monday	11:00					
Monday	11:30	Akai Hayate 1-2		Angel's Egg	A Taxing Woman	Fandom Beyond 1996?
Monday	12:00					
Monday	12:30	Iczelion 1-2				
Monday	13:00			Miracle Girls 1-4		ROBOTECH: 10 Years after
Monday	13:30	Rupan III: Babylon's Gold				
Monday	14:00				City on Fire	
Monday	14:30					CLOSED
Monday	15:00			The Samurai		
Monday	15:30					

Panel Two	Workshops	Video Gaming	Autographs	Art Show	Dealer's Room	Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Katakana Workshop	Fan Sub Workshop	Open Gaming	DeJesus Signing	Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
Evolution of an Animated Film			Kondom Signing			
Manga in Japanese Society	Cel Painting Workshop 2					
Selling Manga in America		DragonBall Z 3 Tournament (SNES)	Warren Signing			
Spotlight: Steve Bennett	CLOSED	Ranma 1/2: Super Battle Tournament (SNES)	Okada Signing	CLOSED	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
GAINAX: How it all began...	Costuming Workshop	Sailor Moon S Tournament (3DO)	CLOSED			
Drawing the Line						
CLOSED	CLOSED	Open Gaming		CLOSED	CLOSED	Open Con Suite
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	
CLOSED	CLOSED					CLOSED
		Open Gaming				
Sailor Moon H and Other Stories	CLOSED		Staton Signing	Open to Attendees	Open to Attendees	Open Con Suite
So what can you do with a Zentraedi battle fleet?		Samurai Shodown II Tournament (NEO-GEO)	Kondom Signing			
Japanese Folklore		Open Gaming	DeJesus Signing			
			Warren Signing			
CLOSED	CLOSED			CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

The Penn State Scanticon
Hotel and Conference Center





Restaurant Guide

Delivery Only:	Phone	Address	Food Served	Parking	
Pizza Hut	237-8093		Pizza		
Gumby's Pizza	234-4862		Pizza		
Domino's Pizza	237-1414		Pizza		
Little Caesar's	237-5010		Pizza		
DP Dough	237-4747		Calzones		
Penn State Sub Shops	234-4782		Sandwiches		*Best Sub Shop*
Delivery or Eat-in:					
CC Pepper's	238-6256	434 E. College Ave.	Sandwiches	some	
Kentucky Fried Chicken	231-2210	1525 S. Atherton St.	Chicken	lots	
Cancun Mexican Restaurant	234-7400	254 E. Beaver Ave.	Mexican	street	*Better than Taco Bell*
Seoul Garden	237-7444	129 Locust Lane	Korean/Japanese	street	*Mostly Korean*
Uncle Chen's	238-1985	111 Sowers St.	Chinese	some	*Recommended*
Eat-in Only:					
Pizza Hut		2609 E. College Ave	Pizza	lots	
		244 W. College Ave.	Pizza	some	
Highway Pizza Pub		Village Square, N. Atherton St.	Pizza/Italian	lots	*Best Pizza*
Mario & Luigi's		1272 N. Atherton St.	Italian	lots	*Recommended*
McDonald's		442 E. College Ave.	Burgers	street	
		1615 N. Atherton St.	Burgers	lots	
		2821 E. College Ave.	Burgers	lots	
Baby's Burgers and Shakes		131 S. Garner St.	Burgers (50's)	street	*Recommended*
Burger King		521 University Dr.	Burgers	lots	
Wendy's		1610 N. Atherton St.	Burgers	lots	
Taco Bell		322 W. College Ave.	Mexican	some	
Chi-Chi's		1215 N. Atherton St.	Mexican	lots	
Dairy Queen		2009 N. Atherton St.	Ice Cream, Burgers	lots	
Long John Silver's		2605 E. College Ave.	Seafood	lots	
SUBWAY Cafe		454 E. College Ave.	Sandwiches	street	
Arby's		400 W. College Ave.	Roast Beef Sand.	some	
Golden Wok		332 W. College Ave.	Chinese	some	*Recommended*
Panda House		1880 S. Atherton St.	Chinese	lots	
Mongolian Grill		1631 N. Atherton St.	Chinese	lots	
Far East Gourmet		310 S. Allen St.	Japanese/Korean	street	*Sushi + Tempura*
Eat 'n Park		1617 N. Atherton St.	Diner, Buffet	lots	*Great Breakfast Buffet*
Hoss's Steak and Sea House		1450 N. Atherton St.	Steak, Buffet	lots	*Excellent Steaks*
Ponderosa Steak House		1630 S. Atherton St.	Steak, Buffet	lots	
The Waffle Shop		364 E. College Ave.	Breakfast	street	
Perkins Pancakes		1600 S. Atherton St.	Breakfast	lots	

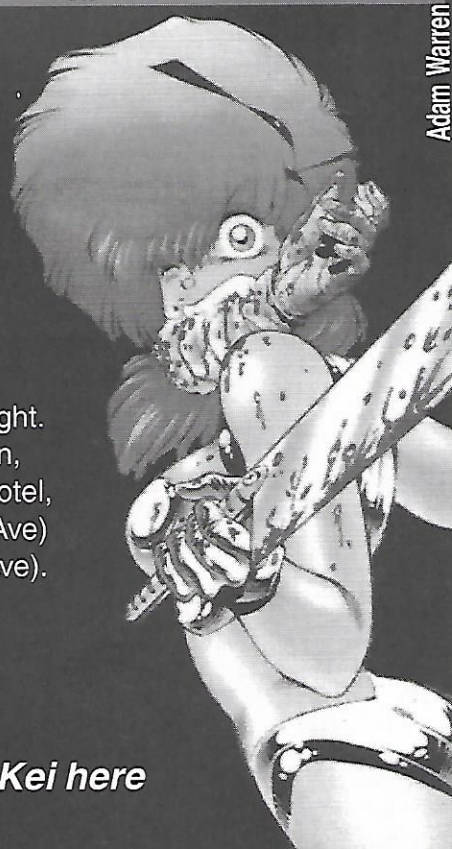
Directions

North Atherton Street — Take Park Avenue until it ends in a "T". Turn right. You'e now on N. Atherton St.

South Atherton Street — Same as above, but turn left at the "T".

College and Beaver Avenues — Take Park Avenue to the 322 bypass and turn left onto 322. Get off one exit later (PA26) and turn right. You are now on East College Ave. NOTE: In town, College Ave is ONE WAY. To come back to the hotel, take Beaver Avenue (one block south of College Ave) or Park Avenue (several blocks north of College Ave).

Allen St, Sowers St, etc. — These streets cross College and Beaver in town.



Adam Warren

And whatever you do, please don't wait 'til you're as hungry as Kei here

OTAKON 1995: *Programming*

Mobile Suit Gundam
Subtitled

The show that started it all, innovative and genre-setting. High school boy Amuro Rey is compelled by circumstance to be drafted into the Federation's life-or-death war with the Jion Archduchy. Meanwhile Char Aznable, the mystery man behind the mask and the red mobile suit, burrows deeper and deeper into the Archduchy, maneuvering to kill the arrogant members of the ruling Zabi family, who may or may not have arranged the murder of his sainted father.

Urusei Yatsura: Only You
AnimEigo
Subtitled

Ataru's promises have come home to haunt, as an alien princess comes to collect his promise that he'll marry her... only it ain't Lum! What influence will Ataru have on his would-be bride's planet? It's Urusei Yatsura folks, you figure it out.

Mr. Vampire
Subtitled

A priest of Chinese black magic is called to watch over the proceedings of a re-burial. When he notices that the corpse has not decomposed, he knows something's wrong. Later, the corpse rises up to claim a victim and the hopping vampires are soon popping up. A fun horror-comedy with ghostly love, vampiric haunts and hops, and other strangeness. Considered a classic of Hong Kong cinema and has spawned many imitations.

Sailor Moon R
Subtitled

First, there was Sailor Moon. It was fluffy, it was lightweight, it was repetitive, it was repetitive, it was repetitive... but damn, was it addictive. Usagi and her infinitely more capable sidekicks kicked youma butt, and died like mensch (or at least mädchen). So, they're dead, where's the sequel? Ahh, grasshopper, it's good to work in an Eastern milieu... we can always fall back on reincarnation... Not quite as goofy as the original, Sailor Moon R still rocks kiddie TV.

Once A Thief
Subtitled

In this John Woo-directed action-comedy, Chow Yun Fat, Leslie Cheung, and Cherie Cheung star as 3 thieves out on the French Riviera stealing art treasures. When Chow supposedly gets killed, Leslie marries Cherie, Chow's sweetheart. When Chow reappears, the sparks really start flying!

Karura Mau
Subtitled

This movie condenses the adventures of the Ohgi sisters, two occult-talented teens who are the latest generation in a family of fighters against dark Shinto magic. Forces are aligning to open a spirit gate, and release the spirits of destruction and entropy. Who or what is behind it?

Wings of Honneamise
Manga Entertainment
Dubbed

Compromise and corruption, faith and the fire, flight and the last detail: this is a story of inseparable dichotomy. Shiro is an average child, neither poor nor privileged, not a hero unless he is also a villain. Cold war blooms, and the only organ driving humanity towards expansion is bloody war. How does God look upon this planned violation of his sphere? A starkly religious, personal reinterpretation of man's drive into space, this film boasts the most striking launch sequence ever animated.

Legend of Galactic Heroes
Subtitled

Sturm und Drang, war, determination, and the hills of bodies that men climb to seize glory and power: all this is the Legend of Galactic Heroes, and more. Yang Wen-Li and Rheinhardt Von Museal compete across two empires and decades of wasteful warfare for supremacy, survival, and immortal fame.

Future Boy Conan
Subtitled

This 1978 TV series was an early Miyazaki triumph, excellently animated and charmingly written. It follows the high-speed adventures of Conan, noble savage and physical ubermensch in the aftermath of a great technological disaster.

Godzilla vs Mothra (1992)

Subtitled

Considered the second best of the new Godzilla features, this movie begins with Earth in a state of ecological upheaval from man's exploitation of the world's resources. Battra, the protector and restorer of nature, is awakened from its sleep. Also awakened, due to a meteor strike, is Godzilla. As the two monsters converge on Japan, Mothra hatches from her egg to protect mankind from destruction. Will Mothra succeed or will mankind be doomed because of their folly?

Macross Plus

Manga Entertainment
Subtitled

A Macross sequel like the original deserved, this brilliantly animated extravaganza features absolutely state-of-the-art mecha animation, and one of the most impressive "idol" characters since Megazone 23's Eve. Sharon's concert in part II can only be seen, never adequately described. Test pilots Guld and Isamu are putting third-generation Valkyrie prototypes through their paces on the planet of New Eden. Myung, their childhood sweetheart, is now "producer" of the human sphere's premiere "virtuoid idol", the AI performance artist "Sharon Apple", who is currently on New Eden for one of her unmatchable concerts. The stage is set for a subtle exploration of old wounds and lost loves.

Cyber City Oedo 808

US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

In a cyberpunk future of urban-sprawl and amoral humanity, it is still the thief that is best suited to catch a thief. In order to control their death-row detectives, the authorities of Oedo have fitted them with tamper-proof explosive collars. Satisfactory performance means that the detectives live and slowly reduce their sentence. Corruption or escape results in sudden, bloody societal retribution. Animated in the brilliant photorealistic style of the team of Madhouse/Kawajiri, this is eye-candy of the highest caliber.

Patlabor on Television

Subtitled

With the general introduction of heavy anthropomorphic machinery, (or "labors"), the police needed equivalents to combat labor-related crime. What they got was the much-feared SVII: undisciplined, dangerous, and exiled out in the New Lands in Tokyo Bay. Goto "The Razor" does his best to keep rein over his highly erratic troops as they deal with terrorists, development, and general civilian craziness.

Dragon Inn

Subtitled

Tony Leung Ka Fai and Bridgette Lin play rebel lovers fleeing the tyranny of an evil eunuch general and his army. With 2 orphans, they seek refuge at the Dragon Gate Inn—owned by Maggie Cheung. Trapped there with 3 of the general's best men, due to a raging storm, a cat and mouse game begins as the general and his army approaches. Overall, a terrific film with a great climactic battle with Leung and Lin battling the general with the help of Maggie and her martial-artist cannibal cook!!

Ai City

Right Stuf International
Subtitled

In any other world, Kei wouldn't have much trouble. He's been made tremendously psychic, and his body has been augmented with some of the coolest technology available. In this world, however, he's got a problem: the people who want him dead know who he is, where he is, and are many times stronger. Their idea of a job well done features Kei's body landing in several different zip codes simultaneously. Of course, all this is over an enigmatic little girl who is more valuable than any of the principals can imagine. This is a very enjoyable film that has one of the strangest takes yet on the dangers of genetic research.

El Hazard

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

Makoto is your average high school student... until the day an ancient archaeological site is found on campus. Then, coincidentally (yeah, right), he is then teleported to an alternate world by a strange young (and of course, cute) girl. Sure, it's another guy-sucked-into-alternate-world-so-he-can-save-it story, but the brilliant animation and music we've come to expect from Pioneer set it apart from the rest.

Natsuki Crisis

Subtitled

Natsuki is karate-crazy. She belongs in a gi like a carp belongs in fresh water, and her sunny personality blooms brightest in the confines of the gym. But there are those that see the martial arts as a path to power and domination. Will she be able to preserve her innocence?

Peking Opera Blues

Subtitled

One of the classics of Hong Kong cinema, this hilarious and politically- charged story stars Bridgette Lin, Sally Yeh, and Cheri Cheung as 3 women caught up in political intrigue revolving around the Peking Opera after the 1911 China Revolution. The final climax atop the roof of the Opera House is one of the exciting and finely edited sequences in action cinema.

Street Fighter II Movie

Subtitled

Based on the highly popular arcade game, SFII stands head and shoulders of the rest of the video-game-turned-anime movies. Vega (known as M. Bison in the US) is hell bent on ruling the world, and is using the Street Fighters to further his aims. The finest martial arts combat movie in anime. Period.

Mobile Suit Zeta Gundam

Subtitled

The definitive giant robot series of Eighties American anime fandom, Zeta will engender memories for any veteran of that era. Like a distilled version of the original series, this sequel contains amplified qualities, both positive and negative, that were found in the first Gundam. Camille Vidan and the AEUG fight against the brutal Titans of Jamitov Hyman and Basque Ohm, while the Machiavellian Hamaan Kahn waits in the wings like a shadowed Fury with her Neojion forces nearly ready to be unleashed.

The Killer

Subtitled

Considered John Woo's masterpiece, this stars Chow Yun Fat as a super assassin who blinds a singer, Sally Yeh, accidentally during his last hit. Feeling great remorse, he decides to quit. Unfortunately, his bosses won't let him retire except in a casket! Also to add to his troubles is a cop, Danny Lee, who is intent on catching the Killer!

Otaku no Video 1982 & 1985

AnimEigo

Subtitled

The original sharply optimistic deconstruction of Japanese fandom by the men who found success through the hobby, the Gainax crew! Starry-eyed and enthusiastic even in its most blackly satiric moments, this describes the descent of a callow, innocent young soul into the shadowy domain of the otaku, and his determination to bring the Otaku tribe to greatness. An OAV that can be seen as either a cautionary tale of seduction and depravity, or a brassy call to arms for fandom, Otaku no Video inspired this convention. To become Otaking is the secret ambition of all true otaku, and to bring the Otakuization is the grand ideal of all fannish dreamers!

Record of Lodoss Wars

US Manga Corps/CPM

Subtitled

This seminal rendition of RPG fantasy has long held a special place in the fans of anime and roleplaying alike. The cursed land of Lodoss is plagued by the evil spirit of Karla, once one of the Six Heroes, now a nihilistic soul bent on chaos and disunity. The neophyte warrior Parn and his companions are dedicated to raising this curse, and bringing peace to the land.

Rose of Versailles

Subtitled

This 1978 classic was based on the brilliant shoujo manga of Ryoko Ikeda, and the anime took Japan by storm. Oscar's father had been badly misused by fate, who only blessed him with daughters. Oscar was the last straw, and the slightly demented noble declared his latest daughter a boy, and heir. The rest of late-Versailles society has gone along with the joke, mainly because Oscar has a personality as stormy and violent as the most rambunctious noble. His/her prowess and unbending nobility have won Oscar the prestigious post of Captain of the King's Guard, and companion and guard of the Princess Marie Antoinette of Austria. But what dark clouds hide the future?

End of Summer (Adult)

AD Vision

Subtitled

This erotic anime deals with the summertime adventures and affairs of a would-be Lothario, who under all his lechery and hormone-driven rudeness, actually has something of a good soul. Three women find that this sukebe isn't really all that bad...

In the Realm of the Senses (NC17)

Subtitled

This film by Nagisa Oshima was considered to be one of the most controversial films of the 1970's. Telling the story of a couple's ultimately self-destructive love affair, this film explores human sexuality and passion as few have dared.

Jason Meador

Dirty Pair: Dirty Pair Does Dishes & Revenge of BD

Pinesalad Productions

This is the myth behind the legend! Everyone's favorite Lovely Angels(give or take a few off-kilter accents) have been realized most fully in these two fan-dubbed episodes. OK, so the originals lacked cheap-shot libels at Macek, Parker Brothers, and Vibro-massagers - sometimes the reality of a thing is best realized in exaggeration. In Dirty Pair Does Dishes, the 'Pair encounter such deadly obstacles as bible-pounding guard robots, cartoon-producer massacring Terminator clones, and ex-husband Rambo-wannabes. DPDD is best known for its less-than realistic sound effects. In Revenge of BD, Kei and Yuri are compelled to rescue their Mafia-influenced boss, Luigi, from the clutches of a mad escapee from Megazone 23. Revenge of BD is most distinguished by it's inspired use of musical selections (check out the surreal segment set to "Springtime for Hitler"). Both episodes were made using footage from the last two episodes of the Dirty Pair TV series respectively.

Green Legend Ran

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

The arrival of the Rodo wrecked the biosphere, tearing the surface of the earth asunder and binding the majority of the free water in the world. Mankind has been reduced to three fates: mutant religious servitude, bloody-handed futile rebellion, and victimization. Ran is inclined towards rebellion, but he is restrained by the weirdly different Aira, whose silver hair attracts unwanted attention from the mutants, the rebels, and the alien Rodo themselves.

Missionary of Love: Rei Rei (Adult)

AD Vision
Subtitled

This prototypically AD Vision show arrived in the US so quickly, that not a word was heard of it until it hit the stands. A curiously elegant, kind-hearted piece of erotica, Rei Rei follows the attempts of the magically cupid-like Kaguya as she attempts to save humanity from its own repressed stupidities. A remarkably thoughtful and gentle show, Rei Rei provides intellectual as well as physical stimulation. It is also [illegible] of the few pieces of Japanese pornography where consensual sex is predominant.

Video Girl Ai

Subtitled

Youta loves more than is good for him. In his heartbreak, he rents a "Video Girl" video tape for consolation, and plays it in his broken VCR. The product of this mix of chaos and technological magic produces the very imperfect Ai, not quite the perfect, detached object of consolation planned by her supernatural creators. This OAV series moves slowly from light-hearted slapstick to philosophical drama in the course of it's six episodes. Beautifully animated and lyrical, this was an instant classic.

Project S

Subtitled

Starring Michelle Yeoh, a female Chinese police officer is determined to catch a group of bank robbers before they can strike again. Unbeknownst to her, however, her boyfriend is the gang's leader! A good action drama made even better by Yeoh's charismatic performance.

M.S. Gundam 0083: Stardust Memories

Subtitled

The Jion have been defeated, the Federation is triumphant. So why is the EFM testing new weaponry, including nuclear weapons? Proving that even the paranoid have enemies, the starkly virtuous Anavel Gato seizes one of the prototype weapons, and triggers a renewal of the Jion conflict. The revenge-driven Kou Uraki will follow his nemesis to hell and back in his effort to end what has begun.

Crime Story

Subtitled

Probably Jackie Chan's most dramatic role, he plays a cop on the hunt for kidnappers in this somber action-drama. Kent Cheng plays his partner, who is actually in league with the kidnapping ring, and tries to kill Jackie at every opportunity. Overall, a good drama and a surprise to anyone thinking Jackie Chan can only do comedy.

Patlabor on TV: The Griffon Wars

Subtitled

SHAFT Japan are being bad boys: they have a new toy, and they want to play with it at the expense of the public... SVII is maneuvered into near-gladitorial conflict with the ultimate combat labor: Griffon. A morally impaired executive believes he had found the perfect cost-effective method for testing and advertising in his labor division—shift the costs onto the government!!

Heroic Legend of Arislan

US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

This romantic epic, set in a mirror-image memory of feudal Persia, follows the struggle of Prince Arislan in his bid to regain control of his country of Palse from a usurper and his barbarian allies. In episode I, the armies of Palse are betrayed and destroyed by Lusitanian invaders, and their king captured. The barbarians go on to capture the capital, Ektobactana, in a culturally disastrous sack. Young Prince Arislan now begins to gather together a nucleus of fighters that shall eventually regain the beloved country's freedom. Episode 2 deals with Arislan's actions on Palse's southern border, securing his rear, and recruiting allies. Episodes 3 and 4 deal with the growing conflict, and a number of smaller character vignettes that occur in the whirling maelstrom of invasion, war, and civil conflict.

Jason Meador

Mishima

Subtitled, w/ English Narration

The only Japanese film here that is directed by a Westerner, Paul Schrader, this film brilliantly interweaves Yukio Mishima's life with that of his fictional works, thus exploring the symbiotic relationship artists and art may have.

Ryokunohara Labyrinth

Subtitled

Fhalei was lost long ago... the only window she has upon the world is Hiroki, a psychically sensitive young man. But Hiroki's has eyes only for the stars and for his dearest Kanata (yes, that's a man's name...). Fhalei fears for her escape... and she'll do anything to fight her way back to the mortal plane. This twisted little love triangle has everything shoujo anime needs: ultra-pretty designs, male homosexual undertones (or overtones, as the case may be...), SF background touches, and elliptical plotting. It's weird, why else would we show it?

Full Contact

Subtitled

Chow Yun Fat stars as a tough who helps out his friend, Anthony Wong, by helping in a robbery. When he's forced to take the fall and is believed to be dead, he vows revenge on the gang that betrayed him. With superior acting from Chow and Simon Yam, as well as incredible bullet POV shots during the intense gun battles, this film cannot be overlooked by anyone appreciative of gritty, modern Hong Kong cinema.

Dragon Half

AD Vision
Subtitled

A heavily SD comedy, Dragon Half is the sad tale of Mink, the daughter of a union between dragon and dragon-hunter. It seems that it runs in the family, as our heroine has a major crush upon that threat to dragon life and limb, Dick Saucer. Will she be bothered by her lover? Or will she accidentally tear him to pieces in the passion of the moment? I don't know, and neither will you, as this anime is more interested in Mink being cute for the camera.

Only Yesterday

Subtitled

A young woman looks over her childhood as she spends her vacation laboring at a farm in the Japanese countryside. She lives with the family which owns the farm, and tells them about childhood in 1960's Tokyo, and the life of an office lady in the 1980s. Lyrical and well-animated by Studio Ghibli, Hayao Miyazaki's animation studio, this was the biggest-grossing domestic film of 1992 in Japan.

Dirty Pair Flash

Subtitled

This is the controversial new "Dirty Pair" OAV series. Kei and Yuri (no relation to the previous Pair, according to a furiously backpedaling Sunrise) are two thoroughly incompetent and bickering trouble consultants, a silly element in a dark and rather Bladerunner-like world of powerful megacorporations and feeble governments.

Oh My Goddess!

AnimEigo
Subtitled

Sophomore nebbish Keiichi Morisato just wanted a little lunch from a delivery shop, but a misdialed phone call and pure luck brings him the divine presence of Belldandy, Goddess First Class, Second Category Unlimited for the rest of his life. Will Keiichi be deliriously happy for eternity, or will his nature overcome his luck after all? Let's not even talk about the potential in-laws...

Once Upon a Time in China

Subtitled

Jet Li stars as one of the greatest martial artists of the 19th Century, Wong Fei Hong. Set at the close of the century, China is feeling the influence of foreign powers. Hong attempts to mediate, but has to contend with Chinese gangs, foreign slavers, and a rival martial arts master out to defeat him. The spectacular conclusion is topped by fight between Hong and his rival atop a pyramid of rickety ladders!

The Cockpit

Subtitled

These OAVs are based on Leiji Matsumoto short subjects published in the manga of the same name. Three different studios give the three OAVs different treatments of similar material, resulting in three distinct takes on Matsumoto's classic themes of self-sacrifice, moral self-determination, and group loyalty. Unforgettable alternative visions of the World Wars that almost were.

Koko wa Greenwood

Subtitled

These episodes, culled from the shoujo (girls') comic of the same name, follow the various antics of the eccentric residents of the ghost-haunted high school dorm known as Greenwood. In Episode 1, a freshman deals with both his odd dormmates, and his lost love. In Episode 2, the Dorm deals with the dangerously psychopathic (and predatory) older sister of one of the residents. In Episode 3, Greenwood is entering school festival season, and the students are filming a decidedly Greenwoodesque fantasy. Episode 4 features one of the many young, girlish ghosts of Greenwood, and her unseemly attachment to one of the residents. Episodes 5 and 6 see the main protagonist of the series, Hasukawa, falling in love with the prickly but vulnerable Miya Igarashi.

Kishin Corps

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

Based on a popular alternative-history SF series of novels, these OAVs are a little confusing for anybody who haven't read the books. It's the mid-Thirties, and among the rising tensions that eventually caused the Second World War, alien invaders have begun randomly dropping heavily armed strike forces among the powers. Most of the powers have bound together to create a rapid-reaction force armed with ultra-high-tech mecha (they've got state-of-the-art vacuum tubes!) called the Kishin Corps. Unfortunately, the Japanese government hasn't informed the Kanto Army of their support of this force, and the Kanto Army is engaged in low-level warfare with the Kishin Corps in Japanese-occupied Siberia. And in the middle of this chaos, a small boy with a very important secret...

Wheels on Meals

Dubbed

Starring Jackie Chan, Samo Hung, and Yuen Biao. This action-comedy features Jackie and Yuen operating a lunch wagon in Spain. Samo plays a detective attempting to solve the mystery of a missing girl. When the girl shows up in the lunch wagon, the three powerhouse stars team up to stop the villains after her. This film also features one of the greatest fights ever between Jackie and Benny "The Jet" Urquidez.

Samurai Showdown - The Motion Picture

AD Vision
Subtitled

"One hundred years after their deaths at the hands of a former colleague, six legendary holy warriors are reborn..." oh, heck, admit it, folks, you didn't come to see this one for the plot! Chopping, dicing and slicing, this is a fight show for fight show aficionados, and for fans of the highly popular arcade game.

Rupan III: Fuma Conspiracy

AnimEigo
Subtitled

Goemon is getting married, if you can believe it. Something so unnatural draws the displeasure of the gods, and of course the wedding ceremony is crashed. Now Rupan, nominally dead and out of Zenigata's non-existent hair (he shaved his head and became a monk when Rupan "died"), is bound to find Goemon's kidnapped fiancee and to steal her family's patrimony. Goemon is naturally ambivalent about this. Animated in the Miyazaki style, this is one of the greatest of the Rupan/Lupin movies.

Ninja Scroll

Manga Entertainment
Subtitled

This Madhouse film is typical of the studio, sharp, angular, horrifically violent, and sexist as a Manila strip joint. A secret gold mine is the center of plot and counter plot, ninja and monster in the Tokugawa period. Jubei could really care less, but he's found himself involved anyway. Will his insurmountable martial ability and depthless constitution save him from the death that stalks this remote province?

801TTS: Airbats

AD Vision
Subtitled

Based on the popular series by Rei Rei creator Toshimizu Shimizu, Airbats is the story of the newly-formed, all-female 801st Tactical Training Squadron. Newly assigned to the unit, Flight Maintenance Specialist Takuya makes a bell of a first impression when he walks in on not one, but two of the pilots—who happen to be naked at the time—while holding their panties in his hand.

Irresponsible Captain Tyler

Subtitled

Tyler is a thoroughly feckless young man, whose only interest in the military is finding a "comfortable life", much to the displeasure of his recruiting officer. His only distinguishing characteristic is his remarkable foolishness, and like the one-eyed man in the land of the blind, in the land of the idiotic the fool is king. Will he be the savior of his country, or it's worst nemesis? Either way, you can be sure that it's unintentional.

Armor of God

Dubbed

Jackie Chan is a modern Indiana-Jones-like adventurer hired to collect the pieces of a religious artifact called "The Armor of God". However, a cult of monks want it back and kidnaps his girlfriend to force him to return the artifact. Lots of fun and great stunt scenes, like the one where he battles a group of leather-clad black women in high heels!

Tenchi Muyo!

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

The trouble is only starting for Tenchi when he accidentally releases a demon trapped in the family shrine. Soon he's being chased by alien women, and has to figure out how to defeat the most powerful criminal in the universe! In addition to the original series, we'll be showing the newly released OAV sequel series.

Dominion II

Manga Entertainment
Dubbed

The bacteriological atmospheric threat has lessened, but Newport City is still the world's most violent and crime-ridden metropolis. And once again, in the shadows, stirs another corporate conspiracy. Will Leona and the Tank Police survive the onslaught? Will the city survive the theirs?

Touch: The Ace Without a Number
Subtitled

Tatsuya has always lived in the shadow of his more capable twin, Kazuya. While Kazuya joined the baseball team and lived out their dream, Tatsuya joined the boxing team, where he finds himself repeatedly outclassed by bigger, tougher opponents. Tatsuya has taken to avoiding the twins' girlfriend, in order to drive her towards his more favored brother. Tatsuya has pretty much ordered his life in the shadow of his brother. But what if that shadow disappeared?

Lone Wolf and Cub 1: Lend a Child...Lend an Arm
Subtitled

This first installment of the famous Baby Cart movies deals primarily with the origins of Itto Ogami's exile with his son Daigoro and the framework for his vengeance against the Yagiuu Shogun. Overall, a good introduction to a dazzlingly violent and stylized series.

Devil Hunter Yohko 5
AD Vision
Subtitled

Subtitled The Death of Yohko, DHY5 promises to thrill fans of the popular series. Yohko, in her never-ending familial duty to protect the Earth from the demon hordes, will face her greatest—and perhaps final—battle.

All-Purpose Cultural Cat Girl Nuku Nuku
AD Vision
Subtitled

Mad scientist Kyusaku Natsume is on the run from his even madder wife, corporate executive Akiko Mishima, hiding with their son Ryuunsuke and "daughter" Nuku-Nuku. Of course, his "daughter" is actually a new-model android with the brain of his son's dead cat. Akiko has sicced a crack team of Office Lady stormtroopers on 'em, and the full resources of Mishima Heavy Industries are aimed straight at the fugitives.

City Hunter Live Action
Subtitled

Aside from character names, this classic Jackie Chan comedy bears little resemblance to the Japanese anime and manga of the same name. Jackie Chan, as Ryo Saeba, must save an ocean liner from the designs of a ruthless band of terrorists. This film is a pinnacle in the tradition of ultraviolent Hong Kong martial-arts/urban-combat films, with a distinctively goofy comedic Jackie Chan signature.

You're Under Arrest!
AnimEigo
Subtitled

Natsumi is less than pleased with her new partner, Miyuki... but she still needs her when a mad bomber begins threatening the city. A comedic police procedural by the same crew as Oh My Goddess!, this had a lot of buzz behind it when it came out in Japan.

Patlabor: 1999 Tokyo War
Manga Entertainment
Dubbed

Quirky, serious, and metaphorical, this is another of Mamoru Oshii's philosophical/religious discursions. E. Hoba (hint: the Japanese would pronounce it "Jehovah"), mad programmer and religious fanatic has rigged the new labor OS software that's been installed in most of the labors in Japan. Can SVII decode the mystery before the virus triggers, and the labors level that second Babylon, Tokyo, down to it's foundations?

Bach
AnimEigo
Subtitled

Ikuro is a harmless teenager. Or at least he was until the secret conspiracy "Doress" stuck a killer-parasite/war-machine in his noggin. Now he's a walking threat to the general public, and a perpetual attraction to random assassins and people with a death wish. His only friend in this world is Sumire, the cutest little ESPer this side of an Iczer sequel. Each time he's forced to fight off another attack, he becomes more of a monster. What to do, what to do...

Godzilla vs MechaGodzilla (1993)
Subtitled

Using the technology from the time travelers in GvsKG, the Japanese and their allies build the newest and greatest weapon against Godzilla, Mechagodzilla! This film is considered by many fans to be the best of the new Godzilla movies. With a terrific score and intense action between the two title monsters, the giant Japanese monster genre has seen few as good as this.

The Naked Killer (NC17)
Subtitled

In this stylish and sexy[or sleazy, depending on your tastes] action drama, Chingmy Yau is trained to be an assassin by an older woman. Yau later meets Simon Yam, a cop, and they fall in love. Unfortunately for them, Carrie Ng appears, as a former student of the older woman, wanting to prove that she is the best killer of all. To do this, Carrie plans to take out both her former teacher and her rival, Yau! This all culminates into one hell of a catfight ending between two of the loveliest ladies in Hong Kong cinema!

Armitage III

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

Man has achieved, at last, independence from drudgery... on the backs of oppressed android masses. This theme, as old as "RUR", Bladerunner, and Metropolis, is played out on the alienated stage of a dome city on the surface of Mars, where someone is butchering androids. Two detectives, newly partnered, are assigned this less-than-urgent matter. But one of the partners has a secret...

Metal Fighter Miku

Software Sculptors
Subtitled

Our hero, Miku! She's buff, she's tuff, she's a babe in armor beating up other babes in armor for the entertainment and edification of the public. So, what's new? More fun in the same vein as Wanna-bes. This is Software Sculptor's first anime tape release.

Armor of God 2: Operation Condor

Dubbed

Jackie Chan is hired once again to search for treasure; this time, he is called to find a cache of gold hidden in the desert by German soldiers in World War II. Another winner from Jackie, with great stunts and fun storytelling.

Fanboy Generation X

SV II Chicago & Accomplices

Cynical and bitter, this is the burnout case's view of American fandom. From ROBOTECH geeks, to con slugs, to embittered old veteran club officers, this dubbed fan parody is an ocean of vinegar to dissolve even the most optimistic of mountains! A cautionary tale about the seduction of the idealistic and the young, this fan parody was made using footage from Otaku no Video 1982.

ROBOTECH III: Not Necessarily the Sentinels

Seishun Shitemasu

This is *the* ROBOTECH fan parody, and the dub that made Seishun Shitemasu. ROBOTECH III was cobbled together from source material such as Macross 2012: Flashback; Genesis Climber Mospeada: Love, Live, Alive; and a show so clearly applicable, in it's theme and it's Mikimoto character designs, that one wonders how Carl missed it, Gunbuster. ROBOTECH III follows the further adventures of the space-radiation poisoned Admiral Rick Hunter; his old flame, now mecha pilot Lynn Minmei, and ex-jailbait brighteyes Mint. Told in that old melodramatic, hokey style that we all know and love.

Hidden Fortress

Subtitled

The film that allegedly inspired Star Wars, this Kurosawa samurai film stars the usual Kurosawa crew. Two peasants are caught in a war between daimyo in the stormy era before the Tokugawa period. They stumble upon a princess and her stoic general, and they become entangled in the dramas of the high-and-mighty who stride the mortal plane like gods among men.

No Enemy But Time

C. Scott Rider and Running Ink Animation Production
Fan-Produced Animation, with Live Action segments

This wordless, strikingly directed short is the latest effort by Running Ink, who brought us Bayscape 2042: A Night at the OSCARS and Conscience. Two lovers are separated by duty and time, in a fashion reminiscent of The Forever War by Joe Haldeman. Also included is a documentary on SoCal anime fandom, a "Making Of" documentary, and "Otaku's World", a decidedly unusual video guide to anime retail outlets in the LA area.

KO Seiki Beast

Subtitled

The earth has been riven in twain, with the surviving humans in the southern, technological hemisphere Uranos, and the mutated, lycanthropic Beasts inhabiting the green, lush lands of Gaia, the northern hemisphere. The humans have now invaded to the north, searching for the treasure known only as Gaia, and laying waste to the villages of the Beasts in the process. This comedic adventure follows the struggles of a group of four Beasts and their sidekick, a human girl-child called Uni, as they recover the mecha-like Jinn and race two anorexic humans in the quest for Gaia.

Gunbuster: Aim for the Top!

Manga Entertainment
Subtitled

The human race has encountered, and lost the first battle with, its first alien contact. They outnumber us billions to one, and the only hope is in the hands of two recent flight school graduates, Amano and Takaya, the pilots of the Gunbuster.

Kwaidan

Subtitled

A collection of four tales of the supernatural written by Lafcadio Hearn. "Black Hair" - a samurai warrior divorces his wife to marry a rich woman. Horror awaits him when he returns to his first wife. "Yuki-Onna" - the story of a woodcutter with a very dark secret. "Hoichi the Earless" - a long-dead samurai is featured in this story. "The Cup of Tea" - a samurai drinks a cup of tea with a special ingredient, which is the face of another warrior who appears in the flesh.

Kimagure Orange Road TV

Subtitled

The ultimate teenage-love-triangle anime, KOR also throws in Girl Gangs, ESP, and a few other surprises as well. In these, the first television episodes, see how it all began.

Yotoden
Subtitled

Nobunaga Oda was a rather odious tyrant who, nonetheless, united Japan. But was he a man? This little alternative history posits—rather unoriginally—that Oda was both a demon, and the pawn of demonic forces intent on the usual breaking-the-fabric-of-reality-and-letting-in-the-cthuloid-monsters plot. The demons are exterminating the ninja clans, in order to cement their hold. Three stalwart ninja hero-types are determined to stop the demons, with their magic blades and their spirit. But who made those blades in the first place, and to what purpose?

The New Legend of Shaolin
Subtitled

Hong Kong's tribute to the Lone Wolf and Cub films, with The Terminator mixed in to spice things up further, makes for one of Jet Li's most action-packed adventures! Li plays a master spearman who must now raise his son alone after the murder of his wife. He soon meets up with beautiful Chingmy Yau [love that smile!] and they join together to protect 5 children, who hold the key to the survival of the Shaolin monks, from the murderous intent of the Poisonous Man!

Yojimbo
Subtitled

Another Japanese western, this is one of Akira Kurosawa's blackest, funniest comedies, starring a typically slovenly Toshiro Mifune as an amoral ronin during the Bonin War. He comes to a small town and becomes an instrument of chaos between the immoral factions of the town that are fighting each other for the control of the booze and cloth industries in the area.

Lupin III: The Mystery of Mamo
Streamline Pictures
Dubbed

The first of the Lupin movies, this pre-Miyazaki anime is Lupin before he split between the two extremes of Cagliostro knight-errancy and Golden Babylonian crudeness. Soaring and visually striking at one moment, the film swiftly turns to raunchy humor and wild-assed ultraviolence, and just as quickly, turns again to true drama. Memorable, even under the burden of lack-luster dubbing.

Tampopo
Subtitled

Dubbed "The First Noodle Western", Tampopo is Itami's love-letter to the joys of food and sex—two of the director's favorite topics. It is the story of a rather slipshod ramen shop's metamorphosis from dreary road-side slophouse to temple of gastronomic purity. Riotously funny and ironic, Tampopo moves in rather staccato episodes, from the main story to various odd skits largely irrelevant to the plot proper.

Spirit of Wonder
AnimEigo
Sneak Preview (Subtitled)

Chinese Ghost Story
Subtitled

Directed by Ching Sin-Tung and produced by Tsui Hark, this one of the most famous Hong Kong movies ever! Leslie Cheung plays an accountant- scholar who spends the night in a house haunted by a very lovely ghost, Joey Wang. They fall in love, but conflict arises when she is betrothed to the Lord of Hell, who is not about to give her up to some mortal! This was once described as "Evil Dead meets romantic fiction as directed by FW Murnau!"

Phantom Quest Corp.
Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed/Subtitled

Ayaka is the president of an obscure extranormal affairs company in Tokyo. Although she's competent at ghost-hunting and one hell of a babe, she's got a drinking problem, has to leave the book-keeping to her younger brother, and sings horribly. Sharply [illegible]ted and funnier than a rubber crut[illegible] this anime is one to catch.

Tokyo Babylon
US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

Young Sumeragi is the head of the most respected and powerful clan of exorcists in Japan. He's serious, generous, gentle, and a "city boy" from his chic little hat to his pointy boots. A terrible tangle of curse and perverse human nature haunts a major construction site, and he has been called in to rectify the situation. But exorcism is never simple where revenge and mad ambition hold sway.

Bride with White Hair
Subtitled

A tragic story of lovers on opposing tribes, this film has won critical acclaim for its sensuality, cinematography, and myth-making. Starring Bridgette Lin and Leslie Cheung, Lin's character is a fierce warrior from a tribe wanting to invade and destroy Cheung's tribe. However, they fall in love when they finally meet, and bring the downfall of both them and both sides.

The Hakkenden

Pioneer LDCA
Dubbed

Based on one of the most popular Japanese serial novels of the 19th century, The Hakkenden is the story of the Eight Dogs: eight young warriors who fight for honor and justice in Feudal Japan. In these first two episodes, we see the origin of the Eight Dogs and the foundation of what is one of the longest novels ever written.

Sohryuden

US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

The tale of four psychic brothers living peacefully in contemporary Japan... Well, maybe not so peacefully: The richest man in Japan knows their secret—perhaps better than the brothers—and is determined to have it at any cost. When the attempts to kidnap the brothers fail, the villains turn their efforts toward the brother's friends—a mistake they will soon come to regret..

Iron Monkey

Subtitled

A prequel to the Wong Fei Hong legends, this stars Donnie Yen as Hong's father who is forced by corrupt town officials into trying to capture a Robin Hood-like figure called the Iron Monkey. The ending finale of this highly action-packed and entertaining movie is quite jaw-dropping; Yen and the Iron Monkey fight against the enemy on upright wooden poles, ala Ranma 1/2, except these poles are suspended over a lake of fire!

Heisei Tanuki Pon Poko

Subtitled

The magical tanuki (raccoon-dogs) have lived in peace and harmony with nature for the lifetime of Japan. But development crawls and heaves it's way up the edges of the Kanto plain, and invades the mountain vestiges and wooded slopes. They will not stand still for the tracked agents of progress to roll them over. Widely embraced as the best Japanese movie of 1994.

I Can Hear the Sea

Subtitled

A p[illegible]orealistic seishun story ([illegible]of-age st[illegible]) follows a young [illegible] experiences wit[illegible] cultur[illegible]shes any form of individualism, however small and insignificant, while only rewarding those with the selfishness or will to manipulate it for t heir own individual goals.

AD Police File 1

AnimEigo
Dubbed

This prequel to Bubblegum Crisis is a grittier world, but at least the Boomers aren't so tough that the AD Police can't defeat them (when they can catch them). Now, dubbed in English.

Once Upon a Time in China 2

Subtitled

Again starring Jet Li as Wong Fei Hong, this sequel features Wong now battling a racist cult out to destroy all relations between China and the outside world. Although a bit slower paced than the original, the sequel is every bit as good and features a marvelous finale between Jet Li and Donnie Yen.

Nineteen

Subtitled

Young love is much the same all the industrialized world over, and nothing much is different in Tokyo. Clubs, crummy part-time jobs, and high-school loves make up the days and nights of a very typical hero at the tender age of nineteen.

HardBoiled

Subtitled

Chow Yun Fat stars as a police officer obsessed with stopping an arms dealer. His obsession forces him to ally himself with a mob assassin, who may just be an undercover cop! The final 45-minute battle in a hospital is the kind of explosive action that most American directors only wish they could do.

Crimson Wolf

Streamline Pictures
Dubbed

A curse at the tomb of Genghis Khan states that unless the three people with the mark of the wolf are found and killed, all of civilization will be destroyed. Can these people be found in time? And, well, can you really trust the curse anyway? Maybe these are the only people holding back the hordes of demonic hosties from wreaking havoc o[illegible]

Tenchi Muyo! S[illegible]y Police Mihoshi

Pioneer LD[illegible]
Dubbed

A one-shot side story, Galaxy Police Mihoshi features the thoroughly addled and inconsistent description of Mihoshi's toughest assignment ever, narrated by the inconstant Mihoshi herself. Highlights include the mysterious Pretty Sami, the consistent substitution of regular Tenchi Muyo! characters for figures in the story, and a thoroughly obscure plot.

Heroic Trio
Subtitled

Starring 3 of the most popular female Hong Kong actresses, this has the style and fun of the best super-heroic comic books. Anita Mui and Maggie Cheung play two super-heroines trying to stop an evil sorcerer who is kidnapping babies to raise the next emperor of China who will rule the world. To aid him in this mission is Michelle Yeoh, who is doing this out of delusion and fear of the sorcerer. Also aiding the sorcerer is the scene-stealing Anthony Wong, playing a cannibal superman who wields the infamous flying guillotine!

Fong Sai Yuk
Subtitled

A story of Fong Sai Yuk, a Chinese folk hero not too unlike Wong Fei Hong, this film stars the handsome and charismatic Jet Li. Fong Sai Yuk is trying to win the hand of a maiden while he also secretly yearns to join the Red Flower Society, a group rebelling against the Manchu regime. When he finds out his own father is part of the Society, he must protect his family and his love from the vicious hands of the Manchu official sent to destroy the Society at all costs. This also features the now-famous fight between Li and Sibelle Hu; they fight each other as they bounce on and over the heads of their audience!

Final Yamato
Voyager Entertainment
Dubbed

I guess spending some time dead wasn't the best thing for Kodai to do. It seems that he's thrown away his career just as the Earth is to be rendered sterile yet again by a tribe of warlike nasties.

Combustible Campus Guardress
Subtitled

A strange mix of broad, silly fight-show humor, and fairly serious ninja/magician fate-has-destined-we-die drama, Guardress follows the battles of the Guardians of a doorway into the demon world with the possessed Remnants, who are looking for the return of demonry to the waking world.

Drunken Master 2
Subtitled

Starring Jackie Chan, this is another version of the Wong Fei Hong legend. Profiteers are smuggling Chinese treasures to foreign art collectors at the turn of the century. When two boxes get mixed up on a train, where Hong discovers the Emperor's jade seal being smuggled, it is up to him and his friends to stop the profiteers. Action is spectacular, but the ending is especially action-packed and brutal, with Jackie dragging himself through a fiery bed of hot coals! OOOuch!!

Fast Food Freedom Fighters
V/Fx and Hollow Western Isle

Undoubtedly one of the best fan-parodies ever made, 4F features the antics of the Granola Girls and their fight to fend off the Fast Food Freedom Fighters. When Vena (Played by C-ko) is kidnapped by the 4F, Mackie (Played by A-ko) must team up class rival Lena (Played by B-ko) to rescue her.

Dirty Pair: The Arrest of Mr. Macek
Sherbet Productions

This fan-dubbed parody's origins are shrouded in mystery, emerging from the shadowy depths of the caves of the mad hermit-geniuses at Sherbet Productions, like scrolls from some post-apocalyptic Qumran. Derived from the first half-hour episode of the Dirty Pair OAV series, The Arrest of Mr. Macek is a fable about a sudden outburst of rage in the slave pits of Harmony Gold, and the two ditz trouble consultants sent in to save Carl Macek from the consequences of his own policies. To put it mildly, this is a comedy. The offensiveness factor in this parody is fairly low.

Villgust
Subtitled

A thoroughly silly semi-superdeformed sword and sorcery fantasy, Villgust is based on the video game of the same name. Two teams of cutely violent player-character types are manipulated by a goofily evil puppetmaster into a knock-down, drag-out fight with each other. Will they see through the villain's nefarious plot, or will they merely cleave each others' cute little heads in twain?

Voltron: Hell Bent for Leather
Seishun Shitemasu

Shitemasu's journeyman work, Hell Bent for Leather solidified their cynical, scatological approach to fan parody that has made them a name to swear by (and swear by...). Footage from several episodes of the hoary old Go Lion series that was disastrously turned into Voltron: Defender of the Universe were spliced together into this tale of depravity, nymphomania, cheesy combat logic, and demented English Professors. See! the repeated homophobic references to Club Squish! Hear! endless slurs against Princess Princess's virtue! Feel! the dirt stupid nature of this well-loved show from our childhood!

Kiki's Delivery Service

Subtitled

Hayao Miyazaki's tale of a thirteen-year-old witch who has to leave home to find her own way in the world. It's tough to make your way in the world at that age, especially for a witch who has no other abilities than flying, and isn't even very good at that.

Sex and Zen (NC17)

Subtitled

This erotic comedy focuses on a man who plans to seduce every woman he meets. Before long, he realizes he's not quite...um...up to the task. He thus arranges for a transplant, with the poor donor being the horse in the stable next to the surgeon's house! At this point, it only gets more outrageous as the film approaches it very...climactic ending. Also, watch out for the infamous "flute playing" scene. Who knew the flute could be played in such a way!?

The Black Lizard

Subtitled

One of the campiest and warped films to come out of Japan in ages, this film plays like a Lupin adventure on acid. The title character is a master female thief who is trying to pull off the perfect kidnapping. Unfortunately for her and her gang, she is forever pursued by the greatest detective in Japan, with whom she is in love! Oh, did I also mention that our miss is played by a man?

Bastard!

Subtitled

This formidable sword and sorcery story hails from the deepest, darkest, most hormone-drenched depths of Japanese boys' comics. Bastard! features Dark Schneider, a black-hearted sorcerer/warrior who has been defeated and driven into the body of a callow young boy, Lute. Now he can only be released from his imprisonment by the kiss of a virgin. When he is, destruction is bound to follow. This show is distinctive in it's innovative, if somewhat silly use of various heavy metal bands' names as spells or country-names .

Stray Dog

Subtitled

The setting is Tokyo in the late 1940s, its streets blasted by war and its economy in collapse. When detective Murakami loses his revolver he must go undercover, descending into a hell teeming with characters as down and out, as desperate as he is.

Godzilla vs King Ghidora (1991)

Dubbed

In this film, time travelers from the future come to Japan in hopes of conquering it. They travel into the past and replace a dinosaur on a remote island with 3 bio-engineered creatures to create King Ghidora and erase Godzilla, the dinosaur, from existence!

Crying Freeman

Streamline Pictures
Dubbed

Fairly true to the story of the first few volumes of the manga by Ryoichi Ikegami, Crying Freeman is the tragic story of the world's greatest assassin. Freeman—an unwilling pawn of the Triads—regrets his "work" and sheds tears each time he kills, gaining him his nickname.

Dynaman TV 1-2
Dubbed

A generic rubber-suit and mecha show with a twist: call it a pro-parody. This was dubbed into English with intentionally stupid and funny dialogue. Watch as the Dynamen take on music promoters Bernie Tanaka and Mel Fujitsu to stop their illegal video filming!

Goshogun: The Time Stranger
US Manga Corps
Subtitled

Stylish, symbolic and moody, this movie from the early Eighties returns to the later lives of the characters of the popular giant robot series, Goshogun, sans robot. Remy, the sole female member of the team, is gravely ill, and the film splits between the others' fight to save her, and her internal battle with a very personified Death.

Zeram
Dubbed

This recent Japanese film has its roots in the same story that inspired the popular IRIA series of OAVs. A race of ruthless, efficient killing machines, the Zeiram will stop at nothing to finish a target. An excellent example of modern Japanese SF.

Zeguy
US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

Being the tales of Miki's misadventures in the Cloud World, these OAVs read like Alice in Wonderland on acid. Our everpresent, overcute sailor-fuku-clad heroine—with the help of two legends from Japanese history—must save her best friend Sayaka from the evil sorceress Himiko and prevent her from unleashing the power of "Zeguy".

Akai Hayate
US Manga Corps/CPM
Subtitled

Hayate has committed patricide and sundry crimes and treasons against his clan, all to bring the modern world out from the shadowy control of ninja-like secret masters. But Hayate was mortally wounded early in his struggle. His solution was to impose his soul upon the willing vessel of the body of his little sister. But every time he manifests, the body becomes more and more his. What happens to Shiori when the change is complete?

Angel's Egg
Subtitled

Mystic and nonlinear, this is arguably Mamoru Oshii's most personal and most intelligent movies. The girl protects the egg, and believes. The questioning boy refuses to believe, and demands proof to destruction. And all the time, the world turns about them like the darkened nightterrors of a troubled mind.

A Taxing Woman
Subtitled

America has no love lost for the IRS, but our schemes and evasions have nothing on the absolutely monumental edifices the Japanese have erected to the avoidance of taxation. A Taxing Woman is a grand duel between a relentless, downright ruthless tax agent and a pathologically clever businessman. Set up as a tragedy, the film follows the slow unravelling of his subtle schemes, and his concurrent corruption of character.

Iczelion
AD Vision
Subtitled

The eagerly awaited climax to Toshihiro Hirano's popular Iczer series, Iczelion follows Nagisa in her attempt to save the Earth from the invading tentacle-waving hordes of the Kudowulf. She is joined by her friends, and the mighty alien battlesuit Iczelion! Just released by AD Vision, this film promises to thrill fans of the Iczer continuum.

Miracle Girls
Subtitled

Two pairs of twins, connected by birth and by ESPer link, stand at the opposite ends of this lilting, elegiac shoujo anime. One pair is inseparable, while the other pair is sundered by class and fate. Beautifully phrased and drawn, this little-appreciated anime deserves a close look.

Rupan III: The Legend of Babylon's Gold
AnimEigo
Subtitled

Rupan is up to his usual tricks, and the world is as unprepared as usual. From New York to Mesopotamia and back again, he's tearing a greedy and lecherous trail across the world.

City on Fire
Subtitled

Danny Lee plays a gangster who grows to trust an undercover officer, Chow Yun Fat, in this harsh and gritty film by Ringo Lam. Fans of Quentin Tarantino should recognize the influence this film's ending had on Reservoir Dogs.

The Samurai
Subtitled

Shimatsuri is a good samurai-in-training... what a shame it's the twentieth century. But he has equally deluded friends and enemies twisted in mutually reinforcing fashion, so I suppose it all evens out in the end. A charming little comedy convinced in it's bones that every problem, from family rivalry to an allergy to female bodies, can be solved with cold steel.

Jason Meador

Lost Dub Theater ...

Star Quest

The little-lamented first dub of Wings of Honneamise, this heavily edited, nearly unrecognizable mess was debuted at the same time in the US as the original movie in Japan. Come and see why it showed only once.

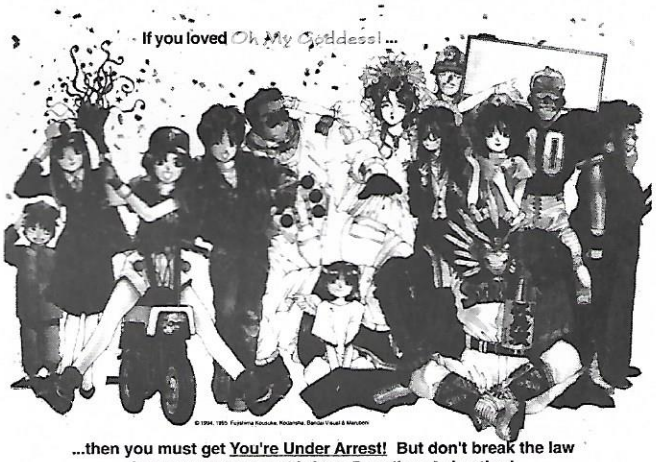
Gall Force

This dub was done by the original Japanese production company. Manga Corps refused to issue it in the form that it was given them. Wonder why?

Robotech the Movie

So ineptly written and hacked that it's own creator has disowned it, this miserable mess was once Megazone 23 Part I, with the occasional turgid bit from Super Dimensional Calvary Southern Cross. Truly painful to watch.

If you loved Oh My Goddess! ...



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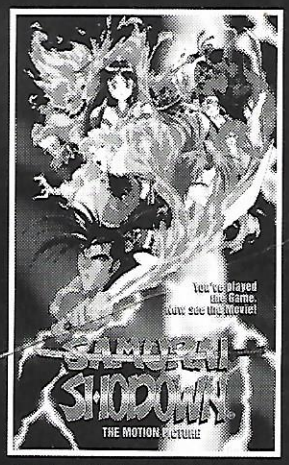

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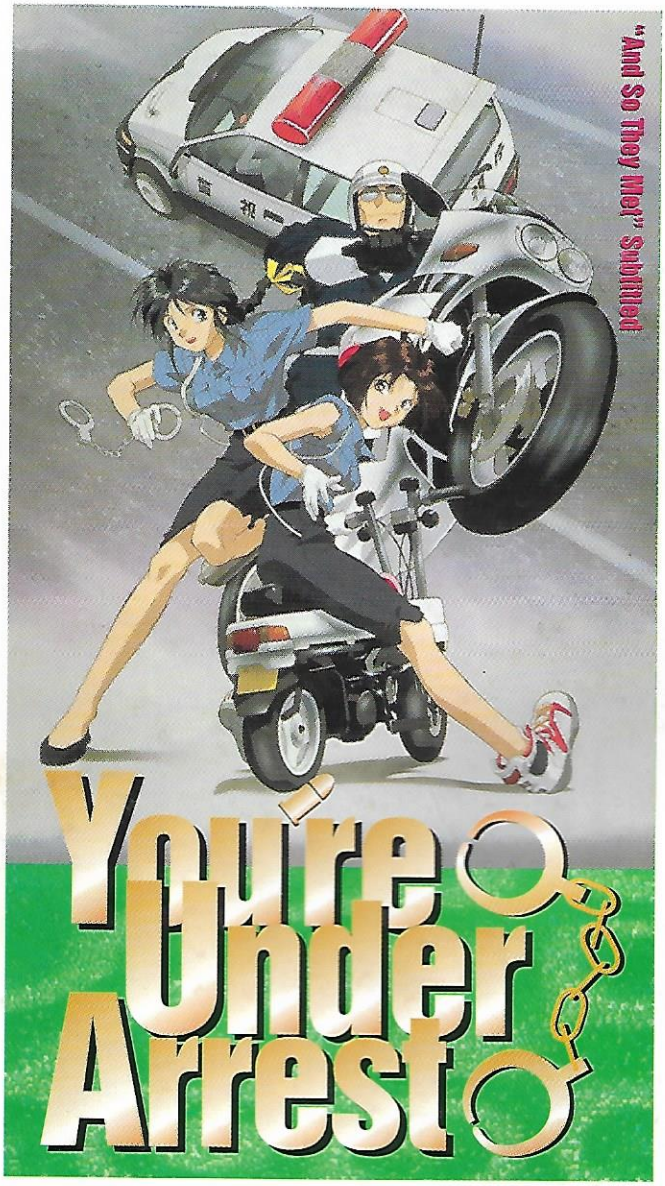

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